COMMITTEE MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

SUSTAINABILITY AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CALEPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL VALLEY HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005

9:30 A.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

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APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Mr. Michael Paparian, Chair
- Ms. Rosario Marin
- Ms. Rosalie Mul

STAFF

- Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director
- Ms. Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director
- Mr. Fernando Berton, Supervisor, Organics Materials Management
- Mr. Eric Bissinger, Staff
- Mr. Michael Bledsoe, Staff Counsel
- Ms. Marie Carter, Chief Counsel
- Ms. Kathy Davis, Staff
- Ms. Betty Fernandez, Staff
- Ms. Judy Friedman, Branch Manager, Organics & Resource Efficiency
- Mr. Bob Fujii, Supervisor, Tire Remediation & Engineering Technical Services
- Mr. Keir Furey, Staff
- Ms. Marshalle Graham, Staff
- Ms. Marie Kakutani, Staff
- Ms. Susan Kumpulainien, Committee Secretary
- Mr. Jim Lee, Deputy Director
- Ms. Natalie Lee, Staff

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APPEARANCES CONTINUED

STAFF

- Ms. Cara Morgan, Branch Manager, Office of Local Assistance
- Mr. John Nuffer, Staff
- Mr. Zane Poulson, Staff
- Ms. Yasmin Satter, Staff
- Mr. Steve Sorelle, Supervisor, Office of Local Assistance
- Mr. Steve Storelli, Staff
- Ms. Patty Wohl, Deputy Director

ALSO PRESENT

- Mr. Michael Blumenthal, Rubber Manufacturing Association
- Mr. Matt Cotton, Integrated Waste Management Consultant
- Ms. Jessica Diridoni, Monterey County Health Department
- Mr. Evan Edgar, CRRC
- Mr. Jim Hemminger, Rural Counties ESJPA
- Mr. George Larson, Plastics Energy
- Mr. Terry Leveille, TL & Associates
- Mr. Mike Mohajer
- Mr. Dennis Schuetzle, REI International
- Mr. Greg Shipley, Waste to Energy
- Mr. Scott Smithline, Californians Against Waste
- Mr. James Stewart, BRI Energy, Inc.
- Mr. Michael Theroux, Theroux Environmental

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F. Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cerritos, Compton, Downey, Duarte, El Monte, Gardena, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Inglewood, La Canada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, La Puente, La Verne, Lancaster, Lawndale, Lynwood, Manhattan Beach, Maywood, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Norwalk, Palmdale, Paramount, Pasadena, Pomona, Redondo Beach, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Sierra Madre, South Gate, South Pasadena, Torrance, Los Angeles-Unincorporated, Walnut, West Hollywood, Whittier; Madera County: Madera-Unincorporated; Mariposa County: Mariposa-Unincorporated; Mendocino County: Mendocino-Unincorporated; Mono County: Mammoth Lakes; Monterey County: Monterey-Unincorporated; Nevada County: Nevada-Unincorporated; Orange County: Dana Point, La Habra, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Mission Viejo, Orange, Orange-Unincorporated, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Stanton, Tustin; Placer County: Auburn, Lincoln, Rocklin, Roseville; Riverside County: Banning, Blythe, Calimesa, Desert Hot Springs, San Jacinto; Sacramento County: Folsom, Galt, Sacramento; San Benito County: San Benito County Integrated Waste Management Regional Agency; San Bernardino County: Adelanto, Apple Valley, Chino, Highland, Loma Linda, Needles, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, San Bernardino-Unincorporated, Upland, Victorville; San Diego County: Chula Vista, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Oceanside, San Diego, San Diego-Unincorporated, Santee; San Francisco County: San Francisco; San Joaquin County: Escalon, Tracy; San Mateo County: Brisbane, Daly City, Foster City, Half Moon Bay, Pacifica, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Carlos, San Mateo, San Mateo-Unincorporated, South San Francisco; Shasta County: Redding; Solano County: Fairfield, Solano-Unincorporated, Vallejo; Sonoma County: Sonoma County Waste Management Agency; Tulare County: Tulare-Unincorporated; Ventura County: Fillmore, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula; Yuba/Sutter County: Yuba/Sutter Regional Waste Management Authority 100 Motion

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PROCEEDINGS 1 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Good morning, everybody. 3 This is the Sustainability and Market Development Committee. 5 Start with a roll call. 6 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Marin? COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Present. 8 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Mulé? COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Here. 9 10 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Paparian? CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Here. 11 Just a reminder to everybody in the audience, if 12 13 you have your cell phones or pager -- I guess not many 14 people have pagers anymore. But if you have one of those 15 things that make noise, if you could turn it to the silent 16 or vibrate mode, that would be appreciated. 17 Any ex partes? COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I'm up to date. 18 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Mr. Chairman, I attended a Latino Appointees and Elected Officials Reception, and 20 21 there were quite a lot of people in that particular 22 setting, a number of legislators. 23 And then I attended a Contract Cities Reception 24 put together by the people from Consolidated and Republic 25 Services. I will provide the listing of the different

- 1 cities and the representatives from Consolidated. But I'm
- 2 ex parting that. I don't have the list of all the people
- 3 that were there, but I'll try to get it as soon as I can.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 5 And I'm up to date.
- 6 So I think if there's nothing else, we can jump
- 7 right into the agenda. We have a fairly lengthy agenda
- 8 today.
- 9 Ms. Wohl, do you have any Deputy Director's
- 10 Report?
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: Yes, I do.
- 12 Good morning, Chair Paparian and Committee
- 13 members. Patty Wohl with the Waste Prevention and Market
- 14 Development Division.
- I have a few things I just wanted to inform the
- 16 Committee on, the first being that the bulk loan sale did
- 17 close on December 15th. The Board will be receiving two
- 18 payments, the first of which was received for \$9 million,
- 19 is now available for new loans. In addition, Capital
- 20 Crossing Bank did reimburse us for the legal fees to the
- 21 tune of approximately \$40,000. The balance of the loan
- 22 sale proceeds, which is about 10 million, will be due on
- 23 December 15th, 2005, and there is currently over 13
- 24 million available for RMDZ loans. So we'll be sending out
- 25 notifications to the business and saying, come, we have

- 1 money.
- 2 Also, which is standard practice, I need to
- 3 report whenever the interest rate changes. And we would
- 4 like to publicly announce the new RMDZ loan interest rate
- 5 is anticipated to be 5.25 percent. I think we'll know for
- 6 sure when the Board meets on January 18th. This equals
- 7 the current national prime rate of interest. The rate
- 8 will be charged on all new RMDZ loans for the six-month
- 9 period beginning now and ending June 30th, 2005. As a
- 10 reminder, it was 4.25 percent, so prime is going up.
- 11 As far as the e-waste team, as you know,
- 12 January 1st was the official kickoff. Retailers are
- 13 currently collecting the e-waste recycling fee between 6
- 14 and \$10. That has started. We have 10 recyclers and
- 15 approximately 80 collectors that have been listed on our
- 16 website. So that's beginning, which is erecycle.org.
- 17 Also available at erecycle.org, I think I mentioned last
- 18 time, we have camera-ready point of purchase ads and
- 19 websites so that the retailers can use that. So next time
- 20 you visit a retailer, you might want to see if you see our
- 21 logos posted there.
- 22 And, lastly, I wanted to mention an upcoming
- 23 forum, the Motion Picture Forum. We'll be holding a
- 24 one-day forum at UCLA on February 4th on sustainability in
- 25 the motion picture industry. The objective of the forum

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- 1 is to showcase current sustainable practice throughout the
- 2 motion picture and TV industry, to educate the industry
- 3 about their environmental footprint, and to introduce
- 4 existing green resources, and to inspire, you know, a
- 5 broader discussion on environmental issues in the
- 6 industry. Chair Rosario Marin has graciously agreed to
- 7 speak at the event, and we have several others from the
- 8 motion picture industry. So if any of you are interested
- 9 in attending, let us know that.
- 10 That concludes my report, unless there's any
- 11 questions.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I think I'm going to be at
- 13 the event also.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Are you an actor?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I try to be. We all try
- 16 to be.
- 17 And then maybe at the full Board meeting we might
- 18 want to talk just a little bit more about the e-waste.
- 19 You know, it's an important new program for the Board.
- 20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: I'll write something up
- 21 for Mark's report.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And then one thing for
- 23 everybody in the audience, the one thing I failed to
- 24 mention, if you want to speak on any item, there are
- 25 speaker slips in the back of the room. If you can fill

- 1 one out and hand it to Ms. Kumpulainien here in the front
- 2 of the room, we'll make sure to get that to call on you
- 3 when your agenda item comes up.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: Go ahead? So we're
- 5 starting with Item Number 9, which is Committee Item B,
- 6 Consideration of Adoption of Recycling Market Development
- 7 Zone Loan Regulations to Allow the Use of RMDZ Loan Funds
- 8 to Leverage Private, Nonprofit, or Government Loan Funds,
- 9 and Adoption of Proposed Technical Revisions to RMDZ Loan
- 10 Regulations. And John Nuffer will present.
- MR. NUFFER: Good morning, Members.
- 12 In this item, staff is asking for the Board's
- 13 adoption of revised RMDZ loan regulations. The revised
- 14 regulations, because of the Board's interest in leveraging
- 15 its funds or using its funds to promote more public and
- 16 private lending to company's that make recycled content
- 17 products. At the last Committee meeting, you authorized
- 18 us to send out the regs for another 15-day public review.
- 19 We did that. There were no comments. And we did that
- 20 additional 15-day review to notice the three changes we
- 21 made at the request of the Association of Zone
- 22 Administrators. There were no comments on those changes.
- 23 So at this point we're ready to send those regs
- 24 off to the Office of Administrative Law. We've made the
- 25 determinations that we were required to say that the regs

- 1 will not have a negative effect on issues like housing and
- 2 jobs and the competitive climate in California. In fact,
- 3 we think they'll have a positive effect.
- 4 So with that, we'll be happy to answer questions.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: So you received no
- 6 comments. And is there anybody here who's going to speak
- 7 on this item? I don't think so.
- 8 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: Mr. Chair, just for the
- 9 record, I'd like to point out this is also serving as the
- 10 public hearing on the proposed regulations.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Mr. Chair, without going
- 12 further into it, I know this was a response to the
- 13 concerns that the loan administrators had raised. So, in
- 14 fact, the lack of comment means approval of it; right?
- MR. NUFFER: Yes. And I spoke with Mr. Lautze,
- 16 who's the President of the Association, a couple days ago,
- 17 and he was fine with things. They want to be involved and
- 18 we want them to be involved.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I'm glad. I know we're
- 20 doing this per their request. I can guarantee you if
- 21 there was a problem, they would have come back to us and
- 22 let us know about that.
- 23 So without further comment, Mr. Chairman, I'd
- 24 like to move Resolution 2005-27.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Second.

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CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: That's 2005-27 revised as 2 it's in our binder. Secretary, call the roll. 3 4 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Marin? 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Aye. 6 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Mulé? COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Aye. 8 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Paparian? CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Aye. 9 Can we put this on consent? Yes, we can. We'll 10 11 put this on consent, if that's all right. DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: Agenda Item 10 or 12 13 Committee Item C, Discussion of California's Compost and 14 Mulch Producing Infrastructure. And this is actually the 15 second study we've done. The last one was done a couple 16 years ago. And Steve Storelli will present. 17 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was presented as follows.) 18 MR. STORELLI: Good morning, Chair Paparian, 19 members of the Committee. 20 21 --000--22 MR. STORELLI: The item will present the results 23 of a Board-funded study to assess California's compost and 24 mulch producing infrastructure. California has developed 25 a robust infrastructure to process organic materials into

- 1 usable product. However, unlike landfills and transfer
- 2 stations, compost and mulch facilities are not required to
- 3 report process or production data to the Board. This
- 4 study was funded by the Board in 2002 to address this data
- 5 gap.
- 6 Specifically, the study will update information
- 7 from an earlier 2001 study and provide information about
- 8 organic feedstock and markets and will provide aggregate
- 9 data on the industry to better understand market dynamics
- 10 and quantitative measurements of Board performance plans.
- 11 The study has been widely cited by the industry
- 12 and used by jurisdictions in their efforts to divert
- 13 organic materials. Matt Cotton was the principle
- 14 investigator of Integrated Waste Management Consulting who
- 15 conducted both the 2001 and 2003 studies.
- 16 --00o--
- 17 MR. STORELLI: Specific objectives of the study
- 18 are: One, to provide the Board and California's organic
- 19 industry with information and data on the number of
- 20 compost and mulch producers, feedstock sources, diversion
- 21 volume, products, and markets for organic materials. The
- 22 study also documents green waste, ADC use, and solicits
- 23 responses to then-current challenges facing the organics
- 24 industry.
- 25 ---00--

9

MR. STORELLI: A comprehensive approach was 1 2 developed that included the following key elements: A 3 Project Steering Committee of industry representatives 4 from various sectors and an independent contractor with strong ties to the compost and mulch producing community; a promotional campaign, advertising the survey and promoting its value to composters and processors; site visits to facilities where neighbors -- to those facilities reluctant to take part in the survey. And we also used Board ADC green waste data for the year 2002. 10 11 This survey also addressed a number of topical questions that were then-current challenges to the 12 13 industry. These included questions on sudden oak death 14 syndrome, South Coast Air Quality Management District's PR 15 1133, and the persistent herbicide Clopyralid. --000--16 MR. STORELLI: The organics industry faced a 17 number of new challenges in 2003, including tougher 18 emission regulations in Southern California, which is PR 19 20 1133; the possible quarantine of organic materials in 21 twelve north and central coast counties due to sudden oak 22 death syndrome; and the prospect of persistent herbicide 23 Clopyralid remaining in compost products. 24 Questions about how these challenges affected 25 composters and processors were added to the survey to try

10

1 to understand the impact these obstacles might have on the

- 2 industry.
- 3 --000--
- 4 MR. STORELLI: The number of facilities
- 5 participating in 2003 was largely the same as in 2001. In
- 6 2003, 101 composters and 69 processors participated for a
- 7 total of 170 facilities. In 2001, 169 participated. In
- 8 2003, 32 facilities refused to participate, which was made
- 9 up of 16 composters and 16 processors, as compared to 11
- 10 facilities in 2001. And in 2003, we included Board data
- 11 on landfilled green waste ADC use from 58 landfills.
- 12 --000--
- 13 MR. STORELLI: Total feedstock processed
- 14 represents the approximate amount of material diverted
- 15 from the landfills statewide. In 2001, the California
- 16 organics industry diverted over six million tons of
- 17 material. In 2003, total diversion increased 62 percent
- 18 to about 10 million tons. The 10 million tons includes an
- 19 estimate for the 32 facilities that declined to
- 20 participate in the most recent 2003 survey.
- 21 --000--
- 22 MR. STORELLI: Composters and processors receive
- 23 a wide array of feedstocks across California.
- 24 Seventy-nine percent of facilities surveyed processed
- 25 green material, the main focus of this project; 54

11

- 1 percent, new waste; 23 percent manure; 22 percent
- 2 agricultural byproducts. To a lesser extent, 10 percent
- 3 processed food scraps; 9 percent, biosolids; and 7
- 4 percent, other materials, which includes stable bedding,
- 5 sawdust, shavings, and fish sludge.
- --000--
- 7 MR. STORELLI: The major sources of feedstock are
- 8 13 percent originated from municipal sources, 21 percent
- 9 from self-haul, and 38 percent from commercial. Not
- 10 surprising, in 2003 the largest portion of feedstocks came
- 11 from the commercial segment.
- 12 --00o--
- 13 MR. STORELLI: This slide shows the total volume
- 14 of product by product type. The four products with the
- 15 greatest volume are ADC with 8.5 million cubic yards;
- 16 boiler fuel, which is used by the biomass to energy
- 17 facility at 3.8 million cubic yards; compost with 3.0
- 18 million cubic yards; and mulch, at 2.3 million cubic
- 19 yards. Not surprising, composters produced most of the
- 20 compost, while processors produced the bulk of the ADC,
- 21 and landfill processors account for a significant portion
- 22 of ADC production.
- --000--
- MR. STORELLI: Comparing 2003 product volumes
- 25 with 2001, overall total statewide production is up 23

- 1 percent from 15 million cubic yards in 2001, to 18.4
- 2 million cubic yards in 2003.
- 3 Of note is the reduction in compost production
- 4 from 4.2 million cubic yards in 2001 to 3.0 million cubic
- 5 yards in 2003. This represents a 28 percent reduction.
- 6 The reasons for the decrease are thought to be, one, a
- 7 number of compost facilities closed between study periods.
- 8 Sixteen composters did not participate in the survey. ADC
- 9 may impact some composter's abilities to obtain material.
- 10 And the fourth one, the spring of 2003 was wet, a wet
- 11 year, and some composters reported a bad year.
- Mulch production increased 24 percent to 2.3
- 13 million cubic yards. Boiler fuel increased 12 percent to
- 14 3.9 million cubic yards. And green waste ADC production
- 15 was up substantially to 8.5 million cubic yards.
- 16 --00o--
- 17 MR. STORELLI: This slide shows where the markets
- 18 are for the products produced. The market is dominated by
- 19 ADC at 47 percent; second by the biofuels market, which is
- 20 a distant second at 20 percent; landscape, 11 percent;
- 21 agriculture, 10; nursery uses, 2 percent; uses in the
- 22 other categories, 6; beneficial use at landfills, 2.
- 23 Caltrans represents 1 percent of the market, and municipal
- 24 uses also is at 1 percent.
- 25 --000--

- 1 MR. STORELLI: The organics industry faced a
- 2 number of new challenges in 2003, including the prospect
- 3 of the persistent herbicide Clopyralid remaining in
- 4 compost products. This figure shows the responses to the
- 5 question, how have concerns about persistent herbicides
- 6 affected sales of your product? Sixty-seven percent of
- 7 those composters responding to the question indicated that
- 8 Clopyralid had no impact on sales. Twenty-eight percent
- 9 did not know whether or not Clopyralid had an impact on
- 10 sales. These results indicate that the majority of
- 11 producers either did not notice an impact or could not
- 12 trace slow sales directly to Clopyralid use. More recent
- 13 sampling data indicates that the presence of Clopyralid is
- 14 declining in California compost.
- --o0o--
- MR. STORELLI: The South Coast Air Quality
- 17 Management District developed PR 1133, which deals with
- 18 controlling emissions from composting facilities. Part of
- 19 the rule that addresses green waste composting is still
- 20 under development, pending, in part, more research.
- 21 The survey asked whether or not producers thought
- 22 PR 1133 would increase their production costs.
- 23 Forty-three percent of facilities answered that PR 1133
- 24 would increase production costs.
- Of the facilities that responded that PR 1133

14

- 1 would increase their production costs, 33 percent of the
- 2 composters and 17 percent of the processors responded that
- 3 they would increase their gate fee. Thirty-three percent
- 4 of both composters and processors responded they would
- 5 close their facility. And 17 percent of the composters
- 6 but no processors responded that they would increase the
- 7 price of their end product. And, lastly, no facility
- 8 responded that they would relocate operations outside of
- 9 the South Coast Air Quality Management District's
- 10 jurisdiction.
- --000--
- 12 MR. STORELLI: The use of green waste as ADC has
- 13 been controversial since first practiced in California in
- 14 the late 1980s and early 1990s. Some composters believe
- 15 that the price advantage offered by ADC has taken
- 16 feedstock that otherwise would be available for
- 17 composting, and that it represents a competitive
- 18 disadvantage.
- 19 Other composters, to complicate the issue, use
- 20 green waste ADC as a market for materials that are
- 21 otherwise difficult to market, such as overs or for
- 22 feedstock that is too contaminated to clean up
- 23 economically.
- This figure shows on a statewide basis how
- 25 composters and processors responded to the question, do

- 1 you think the ability to use green waste as ADC has had an
- 2 affect on your business? Fifty-seven percent of the
- 3 composters and 44 percent of the processors felt that ADC
- 4 had no impact, versus 43 percent of the composters and 56
- 5 percent of the processors felt that ADC had had an impact.
- 6 The aggregate results were almost evenly split, 51 percent
- 7 with ADC without an impact, versus 49 percent felt they
- 8 were impacted.
- 9 --000--
- 10 MR. STORELLI: On a regional basis, the results
- 11 were much different than statewide. In the Bay Area
- 12 region, 70 percent of the composters believed that the use
- 13 of ADC has impacted their businesses. The situation is
- 14 reversed in the central coast region with 70 percent of
- 15 composters responding that ADC has not affected their
- 16 businesses. In general, the Bay Area region uses more ADC
- 17 than does the central coast region, which might explain
- 18 the pressure felt by the Bay Area composters.
- 19 In the central valley, 60 percent of the
- 20 composters felt that ADC has not affected their
- 21 businesses, perhaps due to the relatively small amount of
- 22 green waste used as ADC in that region.
- In the southern region, which is by far the
- 24 largest regional user of ADC, 58 percent of composters
- 25 reported that ADC has affected their business. And no

- 1 facilities in the northern region reported that ADC
- 2 affected their business. But landfills in the northern
- 3 region do not use much ADC.
- 4 --000--
- 5 MR. STORELLI: Processors also showed a varied
- 6 response by region. Processors in the Bay Area and
- 7 central coast regions are somewhat evenly matched. Forty
- 8 percent of processors in the Bay Area region reported an
- 9 impact, and 50 percent of processors in the central coast
- 10 region reported an impact.
- 11 No processors in the central valley region
- 12 reported that ADC has impacted their businesses. This is
- 13 also true of the northern region, but we didn't have any
- 14 response from the processors in that region.
- The southern region shows a different trend, with
- 16 77 percent of the processors responding that ADC has
- 17 affected their business. These results also show that the
- 18 issue of ADC impact is a regional issue.
- 19 --000--
- 20 MR. STORELLI: Respondents were also asked how
- 21 ADC has impacted their businesses and were given three
- 22 choices. The first, ADC costs less than composting, and
- 23 feedstock has been directed elsewhere, ranked number one
- 24 among processors and composters. This makes sense, given
- 25 that the current volume of green waste ADC being used is

- 1 over 2 million tons. The second response, we have lost
- 2 our ability to get feedstock, which is somewhat similar to
- 3 the first category, ranked second. And the third
- 4 response, landfill tip fee is lower, ranked third.
- 5 --00--
- 6 MR. STORELLI: As we have seen with ADC,
- 7 California's broad geography and significant regional
- 8 differences make making meaningful generalizations about
- 9 the compost and processing industry difficult.
- 10 The number of operating facilities has remained
- 11 constant, though the amount of material being processed
- 12 has increased. Agriculture is still the largest single
- 13 market for compost. This represents a significant
- 14 achievement, as many observers doubted conventional
- 15 agriculture would accept urban compost.
- 16 Caltrans continues to be an untapped market for
- 17 recovered organic products. Few facilities identified
- 18 Caltrans as a significant market. Caltrans is 1 percent
- 19 or less of the total market.
- 20 The use of green waste as ADC continues to
- 21 increase, and may be having an affect on the viability of
- 22 the compost market in some regions.
- 23 And, lastly, compost production decreased in 2003
- 24 to 3.0 million cubic yards, down from the 4.2 million in
- 25 2001.

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1 --000--

- MR. STORELLI: The study recommended four areas
- 3 for further study. ADC use at 8.4 million cubic yards
- 4 represents 47 percent of the total statewide production.
- 5 The study recommends that the Board study the effect that
- 6 green waste ADC use is having on the compost industry.
- 7 Agriculture is the largest single market for
- 8 compost. However, statewide compost production is down 28
- 9 percent from 2001 to 02-03. This study recommended that
- 10 more work needs to be done to understand which segments of
- 11 the agricultural industry are buying compost and why
- 12 certain crops use more compost than others.
- 13 Caltrans purchased about 1 percent of the compost
- 14 and mulch produced in the state, and the study recommended
- 15 that the Board continue to work with Caltrans to increase
- 16 markets. The survey did not ask for financial or
- 17 employment data. The study suggested that the Board
- 18 include this information in subsequent surveys, and this
- 19 would enable the Board to assess the contribution the
- 20 organics industry is making to California's economy.
- 21 --000--
- MR. STORELLI: What does the study mean for the
- 23 Waste Board? The study surfaced four main issues. The
- 24 first issue is the dominance of ADC use. ADC was about 47
- 25 percent of the total production in 2003. Green waste ADC

- 1 use increased 21 percent from 2001 to 2003, seen here as
- 2 the green bars on the graph. The increase will likely
- 3 continue in future years and may have adverse impacts on
- 4 compost producers in some parts of the state.
- 5 --000--
- 6 MR. STORELLI: The second issue is that compost
- 7 production decreased from 4.2 million cubic yards in 2001
- 8 to 3.0 million cubic yards in 2003, which represents a 28
- 9 percent reduction. Staff does not believe that this
- 10 reduction is indicative of the current state of compost
- 11 production, but that it should be monitored in future
- 12 years.
- 13 When combining the results of this study with the
- 14 recently released Waste Characterization Study, about 45
- 15 percent of the organic materials collected in 2003 were
- 16 diverted, up significantly from 33 percent in 2001.
- 17 --00--
- MR. STORELLI: And the fourth issue, does green
- 19 waste ADC impact compost markets? Over the last several
- 20 years, some compost producers have claimed that by
- 21 allowing local jurisdictions to gain AB 939 diversion
- 22 credit for the collection and use of green waste material
- 23 as ADC has negatively impacted their ability to obtain
- 24 green waste at competitive prices.
- 25 In contrast, other producers have indicated that

- 1 ADC use contributes positively to their business by
- 2 providing a market. However, both of these claims have
- 3 not been backed by publicly-available verifiable data and
- 4 analysis.
- 5 To address this issue, at its November 2001
- 6 meeting, the Board directed staff to convey a work group
- 7 to solicit input on methods and problems that may affect
- 8 the Board's ability to assess the impacts of ADC use on
- 9 the compost industry. In January of 2002, staff convened
- 10 a public work group in Diamond Bar and in Sacramento.
- 11 At its February 2002 Board meeting, staff
- 12 presented the results of the work group feedback. Staff
- 13 concluded, based on input from industry participants and
- 14 U.C. research economics, that an ADC analysis would not
- 15 conclusively demonstrate nor refute whether ADC impacts
- 16 compost markets.
- 17 In February 2002, the Board directed staff to
- 18 prepare a contract concept to be included in the 2001-2002
- 19 fiscal year contract concepts. The contract concept
- 20 entitled, "Assessing the Impact of ADC Use on the Organics
- 21 Recycling Industry," was not selected for funding.
- 22 Because of the expense, complexity, and uncertainty
- 23 connected with assessing the market impacts of ADC, the
- 24 Board may want to focus resources to increase the market
- 25 for organic materials. Specifically, efforts to get

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- 1 Caltrans to buy more materials or research showing how
- 2 compost can benefit California agriculture may be a better
- 3 use for Board funds.
- 4 This concludes my presentation. And I'll
- 5 entertain any questions. Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We do have one speaker,
- 7 but we have some questions. Board Member Marin.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: No. I'll listen to the
- 9 speaker.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We have two speakers.
- 11 Matt Cotton I know put together this study. I don't have
- 12 a speaker slip for you, Matt. I know you did great work
- 13 on this. Did you want to add anything?
- 14 MR. COTTON: I guess the only thing I would
- 15 say --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Come to the microphone, if
- 17 you would.
- 18 MR. COTTON: Little too casual this morning.
- 19 Thank you, Chair Paparian, for that nice compliment.
- 20 I think Steve did an excellent job presenting it. The
- 21 data is a little out of date. But I think Steve presented
- 22 a fairly sober analysis of the study. There's a lot of
- 23 good news there, too.
- 24 We have described -- developed infrastructure to
- 25 process this material. A lot of the stuff you have to

- 1 look back to '99, 2000 and actually -- '89, I'm sorry, and
- 2 say we're going to flood -- there's going to be no market
- 3 for green waste. What are we going to do with this stuff?
- 4 We're going to drown in this stuff. We can't sell it --
- 5 really respected people around the industry were saying,
- 6 no, we can never sell this urban compost to agriculture,
- 7 and it's right now the number one market for compost.
- 8 There's a lot of good news this study came out
- 9 with, as well as a lot more questions. And also there's
- 10 more data we can gather, given the time. So with that,
- 11 I'll be happy to answer any questions. Thank you for the
- 12 opportunity.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions for Matt?
- 14 Scott Smithline, Californians Against Waste.
- MR. SMITHLINE: I'm Scott Smithline with
- 16 Californians Against Waste.
- 17 Good morning, Chair Paparian and Committee
- 18 members. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this
- 19 very enlightening report. We think this is a very
- 20 important issue. And this is I guess the second report of
- 21 this type, and we think to the extent that it sheds light
- 22 on what's happening in the compost market in this state,
- 23 this is a very wise use of the Board's resources.
- I think the key point that we take away from this
- 25 report, however, is that the compost markets aren't

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- 1 growing. They're shrinking in the state. And if you look
- 2 briefly at the 2003 numbers, you can see only 16 percent
- 3 of the 18 million cubic yards of product produced went to
- 4 compost -- or was compost, I guess I should say.
- 5 The report suggests that one key reason for this
- 6 may be the effect that ADC markets are having on the
- 7 composting markets. And I'll read one brief quote from
- 8 the report to illustrate that. It says, "The use of green
- 9 waste as ADC continues to rise and undoubtedly is having
- 10 an effect on the viability of the compost market." That's
- 11 on page 8.
- 12 I made a really simple chart. I would just like
- 13 to direct your attention to it briefly. You can see that
- 14 the use of ADC is aggressively growing, while compost
- 15 production is sharply down. In the two-year period, which
- 16 is the latter half of the graph, compost production is
- 17 down almost 29 percent. In that same period, ADC use
- 18 increased from 1.1 million tons to 2.4 million tons.
- 19 If you're wondering where I came up with these
- 20 numbers, the ADC numbers are directly from the Permitting
- 21 and Enforcement Committee website, the ADC tables there.
- 22 And the composting numbers are a conversion from the cubic
- 23 yards that I generated with the help of your staff
- 24 members.
- So, in short, ADC has far surpassed compost as

- 1 the primary end use market for green waste in the State of
- 2 California. We're looking at 16 percent composting
- 3 products to 47 percent ADC products. This was never --
- 4 this is inconsistent with this Board's policy on compost,
- 5 and it was never the intent of the Legislature for this
- 6 situation to occur.
- 7 The implementing legislation that originally gave
- 8 diversion credit to ADC, AB 1647, specifically was
- 9 designed as a temporary measure to deal with what was
- 10 thought to be a temporary glut of green waste on the
- 11 market.
- 12 I just will briefly read from the bill. The
- 13 legislative intent states that "At the present time, the
- 14 amount of green material generated in California is in
- 15 excess of the quantity that existing markets can absorb.
- 16 It is thus in the interest of the state to encourage the
- 17 expansion of markets for green materials." So we think
- 18 that this is not the situation that that bill was intended
- 19 to create, where ADC is more than three times the end
- 20 market use than composting is for green waste materials.
- 21 That same bill further gave legislative authority
- 22 to this Board -- or regulatory authority to this Board to
- 23 adopt ADC regulations. I would just like to briefly quote
- 24 one section from that as well. In developing your ADC
- 25 regulation, the Legislature mandated that you consider

- 1 "those conditions necessary to provide for the continued
- 2 economic development, economic viability, and employment
- 3 opportunities provided by the composting industry in the
- 4 state."
- 5 So I think three things are coming clear to us
- 6 from this report. The first is that compost production is
- 7 not coming on line as intended, and that's a problem we're
- 8 going to need to deal with. The second is that ADC is
- 9 having a significant impact on the composting markets.
- 10 And the third is that the ADC regulations adopted by this
- 11 Board aren't achieving the Board's internal policy for
- 12 composting or the legislative mandate that is upon this
- 13 Board.
- 14 We think this is an excellent opportunity for the
- 15 Board, given this new information and this study, to take
- 16 new action on the issue of composting. We suggest that
- 17 you direct your staff to, under existing legislative
- 18 authority that you already have, to develop a focused work
- 19 plan to identify incentives and policies that can reverse
- 20 this trend of increasing ADC and decreasing compost
- 21 markets.
- 22 And, specifically, maybe also review the
- 23 suggested areas of study within this report with this in
- 24 mind and report back to the Board as a follow up to this
- 25 study with those possible incentives and policies and

- 1 suggested areas of study that can really start to focus in
- 2 on what is the problem we're having here implementing --
- 3 is it the ADC regs or is it market policies? What is the
- 4 problem we're having where we end up with a graph that
- 5 looks like this, essentially?
- 6 So I guess, finally, I would say we think this is
- 7 a very high priority issue for the Board and that we urge
- 8 this is something that could be handled internally and be
- 9 given a priority in terms of staff resources. And with
- 10 that, I thank you for the opportunity to comment on this
- 11 issue and answer any questions that you may have.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Yeah. Thank you.
- 13 And I'd like to get the staff response. I share
- 14 the concern that we may be in a situation where ADC has
- 15 gone from being an outlet for green waste that couldn't be
- 16 composted or otherwise dealt with, to pushing out
- 17 composting and perhaps other higher uses.
- 18 But I know Mr. Smithline has made some
- 19 suggestions for follow up, taking a look at some
- 20 incentives and taking a look at the report's
- 21 recommendations and reporting back and suggesting ways we
- 22 might address issues to improve the composting
- 23 opportunities and address some of the issues raised in the
- 24 report.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: We've definitely had some

- 1 conversations in regards to this already.
- 2 As Steve mentioned, in fact, we originally
- 3 thought the ADC, you know, analysis was a good use of
- 4 money a couple years ago. But I think now we're feeling
- 5 like -- I think we thought it was \$350,000, which is quite
- 6 a chunk of money -- that maybe something that would
- 7 actually stimulate markets, which typically CAW has been
- 8 in support of rather than studying it, but figuring out a
- 9 way to put some effort into stimulating these markets for
- 10 ags. One being do some pilots where we can prove it
- 11 actually improves the crops or the soils or things like
- 12 that.
- 13 The other being we're hearing that there is sort
- 14 of this Caltrans specification issue with compost. And
- 15 that if we could work with them and try to get a concept
- 16 on that, we could potentially encourage -- because a lot
- 17 of local jurisdictions will go to that specification
- 18 before they would use it. And so it's kind of like if we
- 19 could crack that nut, we think that might maybe open some
- 20 more markets for us.
- 21 So, I mean, we're not opposed to looking at this
- 22 more. The thought is, are we going to get auditable data?
- 23 Are they going to give us this data? And then once we
- 24 have the data, can we conclusively say whether it's good
- 25 or bad? Because some of these processors are actually

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1 getting a value for this ADC. So we're kind of looking at

- 2 it from the other end. How can we pull the market along
- 3 and improve the market? So that's where we thought we'd
- 4 like to come back with some concepts or ideas in that area
- 5 that we think might be better use of funds.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Board Member Marin and
- 7 then Board Member Mulé.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I have a question.
- 9 Let's just -- for the sake of argument, if green waste is
- 10 not used as ADC, then what takes its place? And what has
- 11 traditionally happened? And would we prefer -- would that
- 12 be more preferable? I want that answer.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: You know, I'm not an
- 14 expert on what normally would go on for alternative daily
- 15 cover. Maybe Julie could even help me on that.
- 16 CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR NAUMAN: Others can help
- 17 me, too. But, traditionally, soil has been used as cover.
- 18 So ADC is the alternative to the normal soil coverage and
- 19 even --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: More recently I think
- 21 tarping has matured, where you have basically reusable
- 22 tarps. Cover it up, and then you save a lot of landfill
- 23 space that way. I'm sure Mr. Edgar would be happy to
- 24 comment on this when he comes up in a minute, too.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Obviously, the question

- 1 then, it's a matter of cost, timing, and the alternatives.
- 2 So, you know, we do have a limited amount of all of the
- 3 things I just mentioned. And so if we are going to take
- 4 away one, what will replace it? In fact, the question is,
- 5 would that be more preferable?
- 6 So before -- you know, I usually like us to work
- 7 on these issues with caution, because with the best
- 8 intentions in the world, we may end up coming up with a
- 9 response or solution that at the end of the day becomes
- 10 less preferable. So I think that maybe that should be the
- 11 focus of the study.
- I understand composting. Don't take me wrong. I
- 13 don't -- I'm not saying that we should not do things to
- 14 increase composting availability and the feedstock and all
- 15 of that. But if it's going to be one versus the other, I
- 16 don't want, you know, that not to be -- to take away a
- 17 more preferable solution.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: What I hear you saying is
- 19 that if we move forward with exploring this further along
- 20 the lines with what Mr. Smithline was suggesting, that we
- 21 also include some analysis of daily cover and the options
- 22 available for daily cover and what the impacts might be
- 23 environmentally or cost wise on the -- or even landfill
- 24 capacity wise on the options for --
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Yeah, Mr. Chair. What I

- 1 don't want is for a decision to be made in a vacuum, you
- 2 know. And only because it sounds good or we want more
- 3 composting, that, in fact, we take away the ADC. And then
- 4 the option is less, really, preferable than what ADC
- 5 provides right now.
- 6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: I think with our proposal,
- 7 you know, there's still a huge amount of organics just
- 8 going into the landfill, not being ADC and not going to
- 9 compost. Even if we stimulate markets, our feeling is
- 10 we're not saying that ADC is out. We're just saying let's
- 11 take more of the valuable resource in the organic material
- 12 and put it back into the soil. So it's really not one or
- 13 the other, I don't think.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Board Member Mulé, and
- 15 then we have two other speakers.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I just want to make a
- 17 comment real quickly. First of all, the Waste
- 18 Characterization Study that recently came out shows, what,
- 19 30 percent of our material going into the landfill
- 20 continues to be organic material. So I think given that,
- 21 there's still a huge opportunity, as I see it, for us to
- 22 take some of that material and do something positive with
- 23 it.
- 24 The other issue -- I just want to make everyone
- 25 aware, in case you're not, this ADC use is not limited to

- 1 California. This is an issue around the country. And
- 2 other states that I've worked in, they had the same
- 3 problem with finding adequate markets for compost. And so
- 4 the alternative was to use it as ADC, in part because of
- 5 the cost issue.
- But more importantly, and I've discussed this
- 7 with staff, is that really we have no standards for
- 8 compost. And so when people want to use that product,
- 9 whether it's agricultural use or if Caltrans wants to use
- 10 it or local jurisdictions want to use it, it's very
- 11 difficult for them to make that decision because the
- 12 standards for the compost are not consistent. And that's
- 13 one of the things that I've asked staff to look at is to
- 14 work with the Association of Compost Producers, which I
- 15 understand they are, and continue to work with them in
- 16 developing standards for compost so people know what
- 17 they're buying when they buy a product.
- I mean, I don't know about any of you, but I
- 19 would be reluctant to purchase a product if I didn't know
- 20 what that product was made from. I think that's an
- 21 important issue that we don't want to overlook. And I, as
- 22 a recommendation to Scott, I think that's where we need to
- 23 focus our resources, is to work on producing standards so
- 24 we can produce a quality product so we create the market
- 25 demand for that product.

- 1 So with that, I'll let Evan come up. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: All right. We have Evan
- 3 Edgar, followed by Mike Mohajer.
- 4 MR. EDGAR: Good morning, Chair and Members. My
- 5 name is Evan Edgar. I'm the engineer for the California
- 6 Refuse Removal Council. I've been involved with ADC for
- 7 the last 15 years and composting for the same amount of
- 8 time. And today is a very important topic.
- 9 The waste industry has been using ADC as an
- 10 outlet for a lot of years, and it has always been a
- 11 competition for composting. The compost industry -- I
- 12 represent ten permitted compost facilities in California.
- 13 And from 2002 to 2004 we survived the organic Titanic. We
- 14 didn't have to worry about ADC, because we had to worry
- 15 about sudden oak death, PR 1133, CCA wood waste and
- 16 Clopyralid. We had to sponsor a bill -- the compost
- 17 industry sponsored a bill to make sure people follow their
- 18 label on Clopyralid. So we have been busy.
- Now that we're really focused back on ADC,
- 20 there's an overarching issue that's coming to California,
- 21 and that's competition for feedstock. You heard it in the
- 22 context of the conversion technology regulations. You
- 23 heard it in context of bioreactor landfills. You heard in
- 24 context of what's going in the landfills today with
- 25 regards to the Waste Characterization Study that came out.

- 1 And today you have a statute of record that has not been
- 2 fulfilled since 1996 and is one of your key
- 3 recommendations with regards to assessing the impacts to
- 4 ADC use on the compost industry. That's a 1996 statute
- 5 that hasn't been assessed. Today we heard about it in
- 6 antidotal questionnaire manner, but I think it's a huge
- 7 impact to the compost industry.
- 8 And ADC is not an outlet. I think ADC went from
- 9 outlet to Wal-Mart, with regards to the amount of use
- 10 that's being done and the pricing of it. It's kind of sad
- 11 with regards to the trend analysis that Scott pointed out
- 12 where ADC is up that much and compost is down.
- 13 The four recommendations that the staff has are
- 14 good recommendations. Very valuable recommendations.
- 15 Number one was to do that study on impacts to the compost
- 16 industry. Number two, with regards to the other
- 17 agriculture industry, there's been good studies in the
- 18 past. We can continue on those, from watershed to disease
- 19 suppression, to water conservation, erosion control.
- 20 There's some good studies and resources have been there,
- 21 and people do have standards and spec out there. I've
- 22 been the Chairman of the California Compost Quality
- 23 Council since 1995.
- 24 I've been working with United States Composting
- 25 Council on a nationwide spec. And Caltrans have not been

- 1 forthcoming. So shame on Caltrans with only 1 percent of
- 2 the market, when ADC is 47 percent. I believe that
- 3 Caltrans putting out a green book spec working with local
- 4 government to buy locally -- Arnold Schwarzenegger says
- 5 buy California, buy locally. We have the stuff. I
- 6 believe that the green book spec from Caltrans can trickle
- 7 down to County Public Works and City in order to have that
- 8 spec locally. We have the science. We have the
- 9 technology. We just have to get the spec in writing in
- 10 the green book so we can have those markets locally and it
- 11 is a market demand.
- 12 So I'm kind of disappointed with the trend
- 13 analysis. I think it's a benchmark study. I'm glad to
- 14 hear more resources should be put back into the compost
- 15 industry, because it is a core business, a valued
- 16 business, a valued market, the biggest bang for the buck
- 17 right after C&D as a priority waste stream that needs to
- 18 be diverted. I'm glad we're here today. I hope the whole
- 19 Board hears us next week. And I wish the recommendation
- 20 set forth and idea the Scott Smithline has from
- 21 Californians Against Waste are valid recommendations.
- 22 And it's so easy to supplant ADC. There's ten
- 23 other types of alternative daily covers. I was using
- 24 tarps years ago. Tarps take up zero capacity in the
- 25 landfill. And if you look some ADC with regards to green

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1 waste, at one time some audits were done, they were taking

- 2 up two to three feet of capacity each and every day with
- 3 regards to ADC use in the past. But that has been
- 4 curtailed somewhat with regards to the specifications for
- 5 ADC. We have foams. We have soil. So I don't believe
- 6 the landfill industry is going to hurt for lack of ADC
- 7 types. I think the compost industry will hurt for lack of
- 8 compost feedstock. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 10 Mike Mohajer.
- 11 MR. MOHAJER: Good morning, Mr. Chair, Madam
- 12 Secretary, Board Member Mulé.
- 13 I wasn't going to speak on this particular issue
- 14 at all. As a matter of fact, we didn't know it was on the
- 15 agenda. I came up here for the issue of conversion. But
- 16 as the staff was presenting the report and I was
- 17 listening, I heard a few things that sort of bothered me
- 18 from the standpoint that, as all of you know, I've worked
- 19 with local government for umpteen thousand years. And
- 20 even though right now I'm speaking on my own behalf, that
- 21 I found the report to be -- what was presented to be very
- 22 biased towards composting versus ADC.
- 23 For example, one of the questions I heard
- 24 something to this effect, they were asking the composter,
- 25 do you think ADC has negatively impacted your process?

- 1 What do you think they're going answer? So they have
- 2 coached to what they wanted to hear, at least this is what
- 3 I heard. Most of the questions, that's how they have been
- 4 addressed.
- 5 So in reference to economic, everything now that
- 6 was presented, the impact on the composting industries.
- 7 You have about 30 million people living in California in
- 8 the cities and the counties, and you've got to look at the
- 9 economic impact on those jurisdictions that they use and
- 10 in accordance with the state law, which your Board is
- 11 mandated to enforce, and you do, AB 939 and AB 1647. They
- 12 used credit for that ADC.
- 13 So whatever study the Board recommends to be
- 14 pursued, then you do want to have all the stakeholders in
- 15 there. And those would be the local governments as well.
- 16 Not to -- as Board Member Marin indicated, don't operate
- 17 in a vacuum, because the local government is also a part
- 18 of the equation.
- 19 And, also, the report that just came out and the
- 20 Waste Characterization last December, they have changed
- 21 the form a little bit as to how they identify the organic.
- 22 So even though organic, if you look at a conversion
- 23 technology at 80 percent, it says 80 percent of the
- 24 materials that currently goes to the landfill, roughly
- 25 about 32 million tons is organic.

- 1 The Waste Characterization that was conducted,
- 2 they break it into to different categories. They call it
- 3 organic, 30 percent; paper, 21 percent; plastic, 9 1/2
- 4 percent; lumber as a part of the C&D, another 9 percent.
- 5 So when you put it together, this is another word that
- 6 it's -- again, I'm not trying to be negative. But this is
- 7 how they present the data. And I know your Board is very
- 8 much staff-driven, or for those lobbyists that are in
- 9 Sacramento. I don't work for the county anymore, so I
- 10 don't care. So you have to be responsive to the needs of
- 11 the people in this state of ours also, rather than
- 12 operating based on what you hear over here or from the
- 13 lobbyists in Sacramento. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you, Mr. Mohajer.
- In terms of where we go from here, I mean, I
- 16 think there's agreement that there are important issues
- 17 raised here that we ought to look further into them,
- 18 develop the recommendations, pursue the recommendations,
- 19 keep in mind Chair Marin's desire to look at ADC and what
- 20 some of the impacts on the alternatives would be of
- 21 pulling some of the green waste out of the ADC stream and
- 22 making sure that there are alternatives available for ADC.
- 23 And go in that direction.
- I'm wondering if this lends itself both to follow
- $25\,\,$ up by staff itself on the recommendations and what Mr.

- 1 Smithline suggested, as well as perhaps a workshop and
- 2 then follow up with this Committee, or perhaps just a
- 3 workshop within this Committee at some point in the
- 4 future. Or maybe I'll just work with staff and figure out
- 5 which way to go, unless there's any preference.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I just want to make sure
- 7 that we include the recommendation that I made earlier to
- 8 develop standards -- compost standards
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Yes.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I think that's a critical
- 11 piece of this whole plan that we're trying to put together
- 12 for compost. So I just want to make sure that's included
- 13 in there. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I have two questions.
- One of them, of the people that chose not to
- 17 participate -- because this was a request to all of the
- 18 businesses; right? And some of them just couldn't or
- 19 chose not to participate. The 16 composters and the 16
- 20 processors that chose not to, the range of how big -- were
- 21 they big or mainly small composters and processors? Or
- 22 within the 16, some of them were really big and some of
- 23 them were very small? And there's a follow up for that,
- 24 so if you know that --
- 25 MR. STORELLI: I think I would like to defer.

- 1 The way we structured the study is the information was
- 2 blinded so that staff -- Board staff didn't receive any of
- 3 that primary data. And that allowed us to get more people
- 4 interested to respond to the initial survey. So Matt has,
- 5 you know, a better idea. Whether he can divulge that in
- 6 terms of this masking --
- 7 MR. COTTON: Matt Cotton, Integrated Waste
- 8 Management Consulting. No, I can't divulge it. It's a
- 9 range, both small and large.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Because I know one of
- 11 the items includes the total feedstock includes -- these
- 12 32 businesses are included in that; right?
- MR. STORELLI: That's correct.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: But the responses that
- 15 we are going to be making our decisions on in other than
- 16 feedstock do not include the 32. So that's why I needed
- 17 to know are we talking about large -- because that may
- 18 be -- you know, the composting may be a little bit higher
- 19 when you look at it totally than what is being presented
- 20 here. You see what I'm saying?
- 21 MR. COTTON: I understand what you're saying, and
- 22 I wouldn't disagree with it. I think Steve would agree
- 23 with it. I think we get the data we get back from the
- 24 people that choose to participate. We wish everyone
- 25 participated. In fact, if you go back far enough, the

- 1 reason the Board decided to do this was because voluntary
- 2 Board-driven efforts years ago did not get very good
- 3 responses. I think they were more in the 10, 15, 20
- 4 percent responses that the Board themselves did. It was
- 5 decided to hire an independent contractor with maybe a
- 6 different arm's length, get a higher response, but you're
- 7 not going to get 100 percent. In fact, the response we
- 8 got was phenomenal. We got a lot. And most of them had
- 9 to tell me no. I contacted every single one of those.
- 10 They are large and small. I don't think that
- 11 there was some giant composters out there that was 28
- 12 percent that wasn't participating. I don't think that
- 13 explains it. But there are some apples to oranges
- 14 comparisons in the studies we used. Certain landfill ADC
- 15 data in 2004 we didn't use in 2001. You want to look at
- 16 the data very carefully before you make too many
- 17 assumptions about it.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Right.
- 19 The reason why I bring that up is because we in
- 20 fact, the numbers -- I would be very surprised if it was
- 21 the opposite. But I would think that the composter would
- 22 be higher if everybody chose to participate as a
- 23 percentage. I would hope maybe -- since we don't have the
- 24 data, it's going to be a guessing game.
- 25 And then I always forget, is ADC -- and this is

- 1 not for you. Is ADC -- do the local governments get
- 2 credit for using ADC?
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Diversion.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Some might assert we're
- 5 ADCing our way to 50 percent. But I won't say that. But
- 6 there is a diversion credit allowed. I believe it's up to
- 7 10 percent for the use of ADC.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Okay. Yesterday, a
- 9 number of cities kept saying -- and I think that maybe it
- 10 was with conversion technologies where they wouldn't get
- 11 credits for certain things. And I'm wondering, you
- 12 know -- I believe I knew this, because this was some
- 13 legislation that was passed, right, if I recall correct.
- 14 Okay. I'm fine with that.
- Mr. Chair, I believe I want to thank whoever put
- 16 this up. It was very revealing. I'm very, very happy --
- 17 for somebody that doesn't like to spend a lot of money on
- 18 studies, I think this was very well spent and gives us
- 19 very good information. I think it shows us the path to
- 20 take to further the efforts. I'd just like to caution us
- 21 not to jump to conclusions right away and that we do have
- 22 a number of jurisdictions that will be looking at this,
- 23 because the decision we make impacts them as well. So,
- 24 Mr. Chair, I think that what you have said is the way we
- 25 want to go.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. So, again, I'll
- 2 work with the staff on whether this might be ripe for a
- 3 stand-alone workshop or something within a Committee
- 4 meeting in the next few months.
- 5 But I think there is a desire amongst all of us
- 6 not to put this on the shelf and forget about it. We want
- 7 to pursue it and keep in mind the recommendations and some
- 8 of the things that have been brought out today.
- 9 And I'll add my caution that I know one of the
- 10 recommendations would involve an additional study, which I
- 11 believe would be useful, but we may not have the money.
- 12 We don't know. So I think we have to recognize that we
- 13 may need to work around that in the event that that's not
- 14 possible to fund. If it's possible to fund, great. But
- 15 it may not be.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: If I just may,
- 17 Mr. Chairman, to Mr. Mohajer, I feel sometimes -- I just
- 18 take two seconds to do this. Because I feel like -- there
- 19 was this story this judge that is there listening to the
- 20 plaintiff. And the plaintiff comes in and makes his
- 21 argument and the judge says, "You're right." And then the
- 22 defense comes up and makes his argument, and the judge
- 23 says, "You're right." And so the court reporter was there
- 24 and says, "Excuse me, Judge. But that cannot be. You
- 25 know, you can't have both of them be right." And then the

1 judge turns to the court reporter and says, "You know,

- I judge turns to the court reporter and says, "You know,
- 2 you're right."
- 3 So I feel right now with everybody making their
- 4 presentations, I feel like all of you are right, including
- 5 Mr. Mohajer. I think he brings up a very good point. And
- 6 so everybody is right. And even you are right, Mr. Chair.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll remember that. I may
- 8 have to quote you on that in the future. Thank you.
- 9 I think we're ready for the next item.
- 10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: The next item is Agenda
- 11 Item 11, Committee Item D, Discussion of the Draft
- 12 Conversion Technology Report to the Legislator. And
- 13 Fernando Berton will present.
- 14 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- presented as follows.)
- 16 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Good morning, Committee
- 17 members.
- This is the first of what probably will be
- 19 several agenda items in the coming months. So grand slam
- 20 this time. As you may recall, Assembly Bill 2770 required
- 21 the Board to research and evaluate new and emerging
- 22 non-combustion, thermal, chemical, and biological
- 23 technologies and submit a report to the Legislature.
- 24 --00o--
- 25 SUPERVISOR BERTON: To accomplish this task, we

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- 1 broke up the research into two components. The first
- 2 component was a technical evaluation that was conducted by
- 3 U.C. Riverside and U.C. Davis. The purpose was to define
- 4 and describe each convention technology, evaluate the
- 5 technical performance characteristics, feedstocks, et
- 6 cetera, and identify the cleanest and least polluting
- 7 technology.
- 8 --000--
- 9 SUPERVISOR BERTON: The second part of the
- 10 research was the Life Cycle and Market Impact Study that
- 11 was conducted by Research Triangle Institute, RTI, and
- 12 their team of subcontractors, which included the National
- 13 Renewal Energy Laboratory and Hilton Farnkopf & Hobson.
- 14 Of course, the purpose of the Life Cycle and Market Impact
- 15 Study was to look at and evaluate the life cycle,
- 16 environmental, and public health impacts of each
- 17 technology and compare them to existing solid waste
- 18 management practices, and also to look at the impacts that
- 19 these technologies would have on the recycling and
- 20 composting markets.
- 21 --000--
- 22 SUPERVISOR BERTON: What we've done is we've
- 23 taken both of these contracters' reports and the studies,
- 24 the findings, and some of their recommendations to prepare
- 25 this first draft of the conversion technology report to

- 1 the Legislature, which is obviously the topic of this
- 2 discussion item. At a minimum, the report includes
- 3 definitions of conversion technologies, the description of
- 4 those life cycle and public health impacts, to the extent
- 5 that that was possible, the description of the technical
- 6 performance. We attempted to identify the cleanest and
- 7 least polluting technology, and also describe the market
- 8 impacts that recycling and composting has from these
- 9 technologies.
- 10 --00--
- 11 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Staff held a workshop on
- 12 October 1st of 2004 to seek impact as to the content of
- 13 the legislative report. And these were some of the major
- 14 themes that emerged from that workshop that we tried to
- 15 capture in the report. And I'm sure you'll be hearing
- 16 some comments to that same effect today.
- 17 Some of the major themes included a discussion on
- 18 diversion credit, additional studies to address data gaps,
- 19 because we do acknowledge that there are data gaps, and we
- 20 need to address those by trying to gather more data. And
- 21 we had also received comments that were beyond the scope
- 22 of the two initial studies, but we feel that are important
- 23 to address for the Legislature and for the Board's
- 24 consideration.
- 25 ---00--

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1 SUPERVISOR BERTON: What I've attempted to do

- 2 here is summarize the contract or recommendations from
- 3 those two studies. And, you know, while all of the
- 4 contractor recommendations are important, some of the most
- 5 critical that we feel need addressing are including
- 6 revising the definition of gasification, the existing
- 7 definition, and other terms that are terms of art that are
- 8 used, such as transformation and hydrolysis and
- 9 distillation, some of which are not defined currently;
- 10 collecting additional data. We also think that analyzing
- 11 the impact that recycling exports to China has on these
- 12 existing recycling markets is very important.
- 13 Very briefly, I want to touch on some of the key
- 14 findings from the life cycle and market impact. As you
- 15 can see from the slide, the listing of some of those key
- 16 findings, some of the more important ones, include the
- 17 fact that conversion technologies result in large energy
- 18 savings. That's mostly because these technologies produce
- 19 energy, as opposed to take energy. And also very
- 20 important is that these conversion technologies could
- 21 decrease the amount actually being landfilled, which is
- 22 really the goal of AB 939, and could lend itself towards a
- 23 zero waste initiative.
- --o0o--
- 25 SUPERVISOR BERTON: As far as the Market Impact

- 1 Study, based on all the studies and the information,
- 2 there's a net positive impact on recycling in terms of
- 3 glass, metal, and plastics. This is because of the
- 4 pre-processing that's required for these technologies.
- 5 And we've tried to include that information in the report.
- 6 Also, again, the impact China has on recycling
- 7 markets has been very important, if I could point that
- 8 out. There's been -- most of our plastics and paper are
- 9 being exported to China right now. So what happens if
- 10 China stops taking those commodities?
- 11 And also source-separated recyclables are not
- 12 likely to flow to conversion technologies because of
- 13 price. Those recyclables have a price to them.
- 14 Conversion technologies, we charge a tipping fee. So
- 15 those kind of tariffs would probably not likely flow to
- 16 conversion technologies.
- 17 ---00--
- 18 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Staff and contractors also
- 19 held a workshop on April 15th, 2004, to discuss the
- 20 preliminary findings of the report. And we received
- 21 feedback from stakeholders that in order to truly assess
- 22 the market impact that conversion technologies have, we
- 23 should analyze the impact of diversion credit. In a
- 24 nutshell, there would be no negative impact on existing
- 25 recycling and compost markets if existing diversion

- 1 programs continued to be maintained. However, if
- 2 diversion programs were discontinued, I think obviously
- 3 there would be a negative impact on recycling and compost
- 4 markets.
- 5 --000--
- 6 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Quickly, some of the
- 7 conclusions in the report. We feel that definitions must
- 8 be revised both for scientific accuracy and for
- 9 clarification. Just as an example in terms of
- 10 clarification, I'd like to point out anaerobic digestion.
- 11 Anaerobic digestion can be considered either a biological
- 12 conversion technology or a composting technology. The
- 13 term "biological conversion" is within the term of
- 14 transformation. So there's a lot of ambiguity there as to
- 15 what is anaerobic digestion. So I think we need to be
- 16 careful in how we define these things and not have any
- 17 unintended consequences. And some of the comments I've
- 18 received pointed that out. And the next iteration of the
- 19 report will try to deal with some of that ambiguity.
- 20 Also, again, data gaps exist. We're not really
- 21 able to do any source testing in California because there
- 22 are no conversion technology facilities. So one
- 23 possibility is to visit existing facilities in either
- 24 Japan or in Europe. As far as thermal chemical
- 25 facilities, there's quite a number of facilities in Japan,

- 1 over 50. And we have some existing funding under the
- 2 University of California study, the contract, that could
- 3 be used for that. And also we believe it's very important
- 4 to develop a research agenda with not only the Air
- 5 Resources Board, but with the other CalEPA BDOs and the
- 6 U.C. system as well.
- 7 --000--
- 8 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Some of the other conclusions
- 9 that we believe are very important is that there's no one
- 10 single technology that is suitable for all feedstocks.
- 11 Likewise, there's no single waste management practice that
- 12 can handle the full array of material. Rather, we believe
- 13 that the combination of technologies and practices can
- 14 form a part of this integrated waste management system.
- 15 So there's no one panacea, and we can't put all our eggs
- 16 in one basket. And possibly this might require us to look
- 17 at the existing waste hierarchy and revise it accordingly.
- 18 --000--
- 19 SUPERVISOR BERTON: So our recommendations in the
- 20 report would be to revise some definitions, including
- 21 gasification; have a definition for combustion that could
- 22 perhaps replace the definition for transformation. We
- 23 would have to look and canvass the statutes to make sure
- 24 there are, again, no unintended consequences with some of
- 25 those changes. Also to define thermochemical conversion

- 1 and biochemical conversion. One of the criticisms of the
- 2 term "conversion technology" was that it was too broad.
- 3 This is an attempt to parse that out. Delete the
- 4 transformation definition. Collect additional data, as I
- 5 mentioned before. And I really can't emphasize enough,
- 6 working with Air Resources Board and the Water Board,
- 7 OEHHA, so any data that we like to gather, we have it with
- 8 their needs in mind as well as our own.
- 9 --000--
- 10 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Then, again, conducting
- 11 research on the China impact of recyclables. I think it's
- 12 also important to not only look at the market impact, but
- 13 look at the recycling technologies in China, in terms of
- 14 their environmental performance. No idea how clean and
- 15 safe the recycling technologies are in China, so it might
- 16 be something we would want to include.
- 17 Given that a large number of plastics are flowing
- 18 to China, we think it would be important to work with the
- 19 Department of Conservation as well on this study. And in
- 20 terms of diversion credit, looking at diversion credit for
- 21 biochemical technologies should be considered.
- --000--
- 23 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Other issues you may want to
- 24 consider, and I'm sure that we've gotten some written
- 25 comments, and I'm sure we'll hear some verbal comments, is

- 1 the issue of disposal versus manufacturing; beneficial
- 2 use; revising the hierarchy, as I mentioned before; and
- 3 diversion credit. One thing that I failed to leave off of
- 4 this list, but I think is just as important, is
- 5 environmental justice issues that people have brought up.
- 6 So we're fully aware that the report will be
- 7 revised -- be revised based on stakeholder input and on
- 8 input from the Board members. I've begun revising some of
- 9 the contents of the report already. Come back in February
- 10 or March with the next iteration for discussion.
- 11 If we do try to gather additional data from
- 12 Japan, we've made attempts already to try to get that
- 13 data, the telephone and e-mail and stuff. But we've had
- 14 limited success in that. That could delay things a bit if
- 15 we actually send researchers to those areas to visit the
- 16 facilities. I think visiting facilities would have a much
- 17 greater impact than just looking at numbers and stuff.
- 18 So this really concludes my presentation. And if
- 19 you have any questions, comments, we would seek your
- 20 direction and be willing to do anything.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We have a number of people
- 22 who want to speak. But let me just try to clarify
- 23 process-wise, because I think we want to understand that.
- 24 You've received some written comments so far. We've
- 25 received comments, actually, up to this morning. Do you

- 1 have a deadline for accepting additional written comments?
- 2 SUPERVISOR BERTON: I don't have a hard, fast
- 3 deadline. I could set a hard, fast deadline if you
- 4 decide.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: It probably would be good.
- 6 I think it would be good just to be clear when people
- 7 should have comments, if they want those comments
- 8 considered in the drafting of the report.
- 9 And then after this hearing today, it's not going
- 10 to the full Board this month. But it will come back again
- 11 in either February or March, a revised version of the
- 12 report, to be considered by this Committee, and then to
- 13 the full Board if the full Board desires to hear it.
- 14 Probably would go to the full Board, too, but --
- 15 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Couple of things. If we come
- 16 in March, there's one -- we do have one scheduling
- 17 conflict. That's the Buy Recycled Conference. That's the
- 18 same day of the Committee meeting. So one possibility is
- 19 to bring it to the full Board in March, only because of
- 20 that scheduling conflict. Or I don't know if we want to
- 21 have a special workshop for something like that. That's
- 22 if we come back in March.
- I would like to give stakeholders adequate time
- 24 for submitting their written comments. Nothing like a
- 25 week or two weeks, but maybe three or four weeks.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I mean, it sounds like if
- 2 you're talking three or four weeks, it sounds like you
- 3 probably are not thinking of the February meeting then
- 4 realistically for this coming back. So you're probably
- 5 talking about March at the earliest.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Is there a deadline for
- 7 submission to the Legislature?
- 8 SUPERVISOR BERTON: It's already late.
- 9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WOHL: Actually, the legislation
- 10 kind of had a flaw in it with the date. The date was a
- 11 year off last March. So they kind of understand that date
- 12 was unrealistic, because we didn't really get started
- 13 until then.
- But I think what we're hoping -- because a lot of
- 15 these comments I think we're going to hear we've heard.
- 16 This is sort of the direction we're going. We really want
- 17 feedback from you on what do you want to change and what
- 18 do you want to include and what from these comments are
- 19 you interested in incorporating. So --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We may want to hear from
- 21 some of the witnesses first. But anything else --
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No. I just agree about
- 23 what you were saying. I think we need to set a deadline
- 24 to respond to these letters. We received several letters
- $25\,$ over the last several days on this issue. And I

- 1 personally feel this is a very, very important issue for
- 2 us to consider. And I do hope that the report does go to
- 3 the full Board for consideration.
- 4 But I think it's important, number one, that we
- 5 let those folks that have sent us letters, let them first
- 6 of all respond to their letters and to the specific issues
- 7 that they raise so that they get an answer to each and
- 8 every issue that they raise, number one.
- 9 Number two, set a deadline, whether it's two
- 10 weeks or four weeks and do what Chairman Paparian is
- 11 suggesting. Let's try to set a schedule and try to keep
- 12 to it as quickly as we can, because we do know this report
- 13 is overdue to the Legislature. But by the same token, we
- 14 want to move this process along. Thank you.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Mr. Chairman, the only
- 16 thing I want to add, and the reason why I knew the
- 17 deadline had passed -- and I don't know if anybody had
- 18 given us a new deadline. Because it is my understanding
- 19 that a number of legislators would want to do something
- 20 with this report, like introduce legislation to deal with
- 21 certain issues that are here. And the longer that we
- 22 delay the sending of this report which would be the basis
- 23 for legislation, we're actually -- it's working against
- 24 our own desires. So, you know, I want to move this up. I
- 25 want to have it come to the Board as soon as possible,

- 1 certainly allowing everybody to make their comments and
- 2 have this report reflect those comments. But I much
- 3 rather do it sooner than later.
- 4 BRANCH MANAGER FRIEDMAN: Chair Paparian, Judy
- 5 Friedman with Waste Prevention and Market Development
- 6 Division.
- 7 We were just discussing a number of things. One
- 8 is targeting April for adoption of the report. So no
- 9 later than April. That way it gives us plenty of time for
- 10 that deliberation internally. And the other thing is
- 11 setting a deadline of February 15th for comments.
- 12 And then the third thing is in response to Board
- 13 Member Mulé's request for response to each and every
- 14 comment. Typically, what we do is provide that in the
- 15 report or in the agenda item to the Committee or the Board
- 16 about the report, as opposed to sending letters to each
- 17 individual commentor, because that takes time away from
- 18 actually revising the report itself. So I just want to
- 19 clarify that.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: My concern with that is
- 21 that I just want to make sure that everyone who has
- 22 written letters and has taken the time to make comments,
- 23 that their comments are responded to. So you may want to
- 24 reference different letters, you know, and just say based
- 25 on letters received from these parties on this date, you

- 1 know, raising this concern, and address it. Because I
- 2 just want to be sure that everybody clearly understands
- 3 that they've been heard and that their comments were taken
- 4 into consideration.
- 5 BRANCH MANAGER FRIEDMAN: Agreed. We can do that
- 6 and do it in a number of ways and specifically reference
- 7 their comment, the date it was received, and our response
- 8 to it.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: But, Mr. Chair, for
- 11 legislative purposes, is April the best that we can do? I
- 12 know legislators would want, you know, the placeholders
- 13 and so forth. But to allow the Legislature to really work
- 14 with what we have --
- 15 CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR NAUMAN: I think that's
- 16 probably a little late for bill introduction.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I know they will
- 18 probably do a spot bill or something. But it would be in
- 19 our best interest to give them something, in fact, that
- 20 they can work with.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I think that from my
- 22 experience, unless they violate years and years of
- 23 tradition, they won't really get going on their policy
- 24 discussions until April or May. And it would be the
- 25 summertime by the time they really get into it. So an

- 1 April time frame is not inconsistent with the legislative
- 2 process. Are you suggesting an earlier time?
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Well, by the time we
- 4 adopt it, we adopt it at the middle of April, it won't be
- 5 given to them until probably -- I mean, they won't even
- 6 look at it -- by that time is May revise and so forth.
- 7 Unless some of the legislators, we give them some of the
- 8 draft report, knowing that full well there will be some
- 9 revisions.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: If someone is interested
- 11 in pursuing legislation, I'm sure they will -- the draft
- 12 report is public information.
- 13 Let me ask one other thing about the process and
- 14 the legislation. The legislation asked for this report,
- 15 the report to the Legislature, to be peer reviewed. What
- 16 we had peer reviewed was the methodology, but none of the
- 17 reports back from the scientists or back from the other
- 18 people. Are we planning to get this peer reviewed somehow
- 19 using the process that CalEPA has or --
- 20 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Actually, Mr. Paparian, the
- 21 reports themselves -- the contractor reports were, in
- 22 fact, peer reviewed. The Life Cycle and Market Impact
- 23 Report was peer reviewed by the University of California
- 24 system. And the report from U.C. Riverside was peer
- 25 reviewed by a task force that we had had convened early on

- 1 in the process that included out of state university
- 2 officials, national laboratory kind of folks and stuff.
- 3 There was some difficulty with having a
- 4 university report peer reviewed under the University of
- 5 California system, because there was the perception of
- 6 some conflict of interest there. So we had to kind of use
- 7 a different method for that. But the reports themselves
- 8 have been peer reviewed. So what the report to the
- 9 Legislature is including is peer-reviewed information.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. The legislation
- 11 itself called for the legislative report to be peer
- 12 reviewed, which is the awkward thing in the
- 13 recommendation. I know we've added some data to it since
- 14 the reports from the consultants, too.
- 15 SUPERVISOR BERTON: And, again, you know, we can
- 16 have the report self peer reviewed to meet the exact
- 17 intent and letter of the legislation. It would just slow
- 18 the process down a little bit.
- 19 Typically, what we've been asking the reviewers
- 20 is we've been giving them two weeks. The difficulty isn't
- 21 so much in having them reviewed. It's finding the peer
- 22 reviewer itself. We've been working with a third party.
- 23 We're not even the one selecting the peer reviewers. We
- 24 don't want to have anybody think we were self-selecting or
- 25 anything like that. So we had a third party do it for us,

- 1 and we would work through that process, if you so desire.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. And I think that
- 3 would be good.
- 4 Before we get into the commentors, we did have a
- 5 number of letters from people. I think some of them are
- 6 not here today. Those will all be part of the record.
- 7 You'll have those. As you're looking them over, as Board
- 8 Member Mulé suggested, have those in mind as you're
- 9 developing the next version of the report.
- 10 I had a specific request from former Board Member
- 11 Paul Relis. He wrote a letter -- there are copies -- I
- 12 think we have some copies that we can put in the back of
- 13 the room if anybody else is interested. He asked the
- 14 letter be read into the record. I'm not going to do that,
- 15 but he did make a number of points, and these are his
- 16 points.
- 17 And he did point out that he has some concerns
- 18 about the lack of emissions testing information and what
- 19 he describes as an unsubstantiated bias in the report for
- 20 biochemical conversion being a problem with the current
- 21 draft of the report. He discussed a trip he made to
- 22 Germany where he met with some German officials as well as
- 23 vendors in Germany and suggests those regulators and
- 24 technology vendors were, as he puts it, astounded to learn
- 25 that California has a zero emission standard for

- 1 gasification. He further discusses emissions data from
- 2 Germany and Japan and talks about the Green Party position
- 3 in Germany and what he perceives as a bias for anaerobic
- 4 digestion. And then there's some more detail in the
- 5 report.
- 6 Again, these are all his comments. I didn't want
- 7 to take the time to read the whole letter into the record.
- 8 But I think you get the gist of his comments and the
- 9 detail is in his letter.
- 10 So with that, I'll move to the speakers. First,
- 11 I have -- if speakers could try to limit yourselves to
- 12 about four minutes or so, it would be most appreciated. I
- 13 don't want to have to interrupt you. We do have a long
- 14 agenda still to come.
- We'll start with Mike Mohajer, followed by Greg
- 16 Shipley. Mike's out of the room. He goes to the end of
- 17 the line. Greg Shipley, followed by Scott Smithline.
- 18 MR. SHIPLEY: Greg Shipley with Waste Energy.
- 19 We're a conversion technology company. We've been trying
- 20 to site a facility for the last three years. And we've
- 21 run into so many roadblocks, and it's just to the point of
- 22 frustration. My frustration is that in dealing with AB
- 23 939, it was a landmark piece of legislation, but what it
- 24 failed to do was that it could not anticipate the
- 25 technologies that are available today. And so what it has

- 1 done is forced the state into a corner that we're now
- 2 trying to fight our way out.
- 3 And two examples of that is, one is the
- 4 composting discussion, last item, where the Board is
- 5 considering more studies to pump up an artificial market.
- 6 And also discussing in the CT Report is the artificial
- 7 markets that are being created for the recycling market.
- 8 And I'm a garbage guy. I send all my paper and plastics
- 9 to China. It does absolutely no good whatsoever to
- 10 anybody in California. So we're sending a vital resource
- 11 offshore to do with whatever they want to do.
- 12 My point is that conversion technologies should
- 13 be considered as a tool for managing the solid waste
- 14 stream. And as a tool along with composting, recycling,
- 15 and everything else, we need to have a level playing
- 16 field. And that in my mind includes changing the
- 17 definitions, because they are very confusing, allowing
- 18 conversion technologies to qualify for diversion credits,
- 19 because you'll never get anywhere without it. Third is
- 20 that we need to change the hierarchy formula to a
- 21 beneficial use type of formulation where it opens up the
- 22 process.
- 23 As a garbage guy, when stuff comes in on the
- 24 tipping floor, I would like to have the ability to find
- 25 the best market at the time where those materials can go.

- 1 Conversion technology is a tool that would help me, for
- 2 instance, manage the waste stream. In doing so, if a
- 3 processor were allowed to use conversion technologies at
- 4 the same site of a MRF or transfer station or landfill,
- 5 that opens up the possibilities of stabilizing commodity
- 6 markets. In other words, if paper were to go to \$125 a
- 7 ton, it goes from making ethynyl to paper. I'm bailing
- 8 paper.
- 9 So that whole scenario then does not rely on the
- 10 state to subsidize recycling. It incentifies, if that's a
- 11 word, the ability to put the materials in the most
- 12 beneficial use possible. Still recycling, but here in
- 13 California. The state needs over a billion gallons of
- 14 ethynyl a year, and we have to import that. We have the
- 15 organic waste here, the biomass, to completely eliminate
- 16 that. Why not take advantage of that for everybody?
- 17 My last comment is that you have a wonderful
- 18 staff. They do what you tell them to do. But they were a
- 19 little timid in this report. And they kind of danced
- 20 around a few things. And at the end, they recommended
- 21 anaerobic digestion, which was not even in the life cycle
- 22 analysis or anything else.
- 23 It is my opinion that the Board needs to take a
- 24 very strong stance and show the state some vision. Take
- 25 this opportunity to communicate with the Legislature that

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1 we need to restructure the way the solid waste stream is

- 2 managed in California to the most beneficial use of our
- 3 raw materials, and it needs to come up very strongly.
- 4 And I agree with the legislative agenda. I mean,
- 5 I know there's legislation that's coming out. There will
- 6 be a spot bill by the end of the month. But, really, we
- 7 need to work in a concerted effort to move this process
- 8 along and come out very strong, be visionary. Help us
- 9 develop this technology. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 11 Scott Smithline.
- 12 MR. SMITHLINE: Chair Paparian, Committee
- 13 members. Scott Smithline, Californians Against Waste.
- 14 We're here again talking about conversion
- 15 technologies. And, once again, I just want to recognize
- 16 that the staff really has done a tremendous job. They
- 17 have done a lot of work on this issue, and they've been
- 18 through a lot of data. And this report is progressing.
- 19 And we think that this report has a lot of excellent
- 20 suggestions, and I just want to make a couple brief
- 21 comments.
- 22 We think that the continued research agenda
- 23 identified on page 67 is a strong suggestion. We think,
- 24 too, they've begun the process to break conversion
- 25 technologies down into sub-groups that are apples to

- 1 apples. We're trying to break them down into their
- 2 physical and chemical characteristics as opposed to
- 3 lumping them all. We think that is really a key concept.
- 4 There is some new data in this version of the
- 5 report that was not provided by the original project
- 6 contractors, as Chair Paparian pointed out. So there
- 7 hasn't been the same sort of public opportunity to review
- 8 that data and workshop style, if you will. As well, I
- 9 guess hasn't been peer reviewed, because that happened
- 10 prior to the addition of that data. So to the extent that
- 11 that data has been a little bit less vetted publicly, we
- 12 have a slight concern there, I would say.
- 13 But, overall, our primary concern is with the
- 14 direction, the overall direction this report is headed.
- 15 And I'll just say I think it's absolutely premature to
- 16 make any recommendations regarding changing the
- 17 hierarchy -- the state's hierarchy with regards to
- 18 conversion technologies or any recommendation with regards
- 19 to diversion credit with regards to conversion
- 20 technologies.
- 21 This report states on page 67 that existing data
- 22 gaps -- and I'm quoting -- "preclude the Board from
- 23 determining the public health impacts of these conversion
- 24 technologies." And the hierarchy is our guide. This is
- 25 the guide that tells us how to take waste stream and

- 1 turn -- be as efficient as we can in getting resources out
- 2 of it. And in that process, we have to include all the
- 3 environmental factors that -- we must include all the
- 4 environmental factors in this formula.
- 5 So we think before we start tinkering with this,
- 6 we need to know the verdict more carefully with respect to
- 7 some of the environmental data gaps that have been
- 8 referred to by your staff.
- 9 So we support this process. We've supported
- 10 moving forward with the regulatory process. We support
- 11 moving this forward as quickly as conceivable. But we are
- 12 absolutely opposed to addressing hierarchy. We think it
- 13 is premature to do that.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you. \
- Jim Hemminger, followed by James Stewart.
- 16 MR. HEMMINGER: Thank you, Mr. Paparian,
- 17 Committee members. My name is Jim Hemminger, Program
- 18 Director for the Rural Countries Environmental Services
- 19 JPA. Two comments, if I could.
- 20 First, generally, the rural counties are very
- 21 much interested in conversion technology. More and more
- 22 of our small landfills are closing, and we're very
- 23 interested in pursuing small scale plans which may provide
- 24 an alternative. Look right now at Modoc County -- that's
- 25 one of the northeast most parts of the state -- is hauling

- 1 its garbage hundreds of miles to Nevada County. It's
- 2 hauling its recyclables in polluting trucks, using energy,
- 3 to Sacramento markets. If there were a technology that on
- 4 site they could convert some of their waste materials into
- 5 an ethynyl for on-site use instead of transportation, that
- 6 would be wonderful. We are very interested.
- 7 There have been impediments for the counties.
- 8 Diversion credit is an issue. But more significantly is
- 9 the uncertainty. So we'd certainly agree with Board
- 10 Member Marin to move this forward as quick as we could so
- 11 decisions can be made. As long as there's uncertainty, no
- 12 industry nor county is going to invest their money into
- 13 this technology, and this process is slowing. And to the
- 14 extent the report moves us forward, we support it. Let
- 15 others talk details. To the extent it does not remove
- 16 impediments, we would encourage changes.
- 17 The second issue is a little more specific.
- 18 Biomass conversion isn't mentioned. But biomass
- 19 conversion is very important in our rural counties. All
- 20 the green waste isn't equal. We have a lot of pine
- 21 needles and relating to the alternative daily cover
- 22 scenario. Real story in Calaveras County, Yard Waste
- 23 Diversion Program entered into a contract with Hyponex to
- 24 compost the materials. It lasted a year. Hyponex said no
- 25 thanks. It wasn't a good material. Entered into a

- 1 contract with California Waste Removal Systems. They did
- 2 it for a year. I couldn't pay them enough to compost it.
- 3 It was not good feedstock. So that material is now being
- 4 used productively in a biomass facility to produce energy.
- 5 Why do we do the composting? In order to get the
- 6 diversion credit. Right now the regulations limit the
- 7 amount of diversion credits with conditional requirements
- 8 for biomass conversion. It would be great if we could
- 9 change those, but I'm not putting that forward at this
- 10 time.
- 11 What I'm concerned about, and I did talk with
- 12 Fernando, intended consequences. Changing the definition.
- 13 Currently, transformation is defined to exclude biomass
- 14 conversion. The new definition of combustion, which is
- 15 supposed to take the place of transformation, doesn't have
- 16 that exclusion. What I'm concerned about, and Fernando
- 17 did seem to indicate it was an unintended consequence, but
- 18 did suggest I bring this forward to the Board, that with
- 19 the change in definition, subsequent clarification I guess
- 20 in Section 41783 where it deals with diversion credits,
- 21 that the intent of the recommendations is not to alter the
- 22 existing limitations and methodologies for biomass
- 23 conversion. That's my understanding, that future
- 24 iterations of this will try to clarify that and at least
- 25 maintain our existing diversion allowance.

- 1 That's the end of my comments.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Let me just explore for a
- 3 minute what that means and make sure I'm understanding it.
- 4 There are three transformation facilities in California.
- 5 As I'm understanding it, you can get up to 10 percent
- 6 diversion credit by going through one of those three
- 7 facilities. You can also get 10 percent -- up to 10
- 8 percent diversion credit if you have a biomass facility.
- 9 I don't think you can combine the two. You can't get 20
- 10 percent by combining the two. It's one or the other.
- 11 If there was a diversion credit for the
- 12 conversion technologies, as some have suggested, would
- 13 that be another way to get to 10 percent, or are you
- 14 suggesting that could be on top of?
- MR. HEMMINGER: I guess I'm not trying to change
- 16 the existing system. Right now, the proposal is that
- 17 transformation definition be eliminated, and it be
- 18 replaced with a definition for combustion. So those three
- 19 transformation facilities, as well as all the biomass
- 20 facilities with the proposed definitional change, would
- 21 all be lumped together into combustion facilities, if you
- 22 will. And I'm suggesting that with the new definitions we
- 23 maintain, if you will, the distinction between the waste
- 24 to energy transformation facilities and those that are
- 25 biomass.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: So you're not suggesting a
- 2 way to get to like 20 percent? You're -- I'm off. Okay.
- 3 MR. HEMMINGER: Yeah. I would love to suggest
- 4 such, but I'm not doing so.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 MR. HEMMINGER: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: James Stewart. And then I
- 8 think after Mr. Stewart we'll take a short break.
- 9 MR. STEWART: Chairman, my name is Jim Stewart.
- 10 I am with BRI Energy. Our company are members of the
- 11 Bioenergy Producers Association, of which David Roberti is
- 12 the President. He sends his regards, but, unfortunately,
- 13 had to stay in Los Angeles to deal with potential flooding
- 14 of his basement. And he has, however, prepared extensive
- 15 comments and reports in a letter to the Board which we
- 16 will enter into the record today on his behalf, and which
- 17 I hope the Board and staff will thoughtfully consider as
- 18 it begins the revision of its study.
- 19 I'm here today to speak very briefly on behalf of
- 20 BRI. Our technology represents a major breakthrough in
- 21 waste recycling and the generation of renewable energy.
- 22 We know of no other technology that simultaneously
- 23 co-produces electricity and ethynyl and/or hydrogen from
- 24 synthesis gas. And it doesn't from any carbon-based waste
- 25 or hydrocarbons. The synthesis gas is scrubbed, filtered,

- 1 and fed directly to an anaerobic microorganism that
- 2 reconstructs the synthesis gas into ethynyl in less than
- 3 one minute. Further, electricity is produced without
- 4 combustion.
- Nowhere in the Waste Board's AB 2770 report to
- 6 the Legislature, in its proposed conversion technology
- 7 regulations, nor in the current statute is such a
- 8 technology contemplated. As a result, BRI's unique
- 9 technology, while mostly akin to biochemical conversion,
- 10 does not fit neatly into either of the draft reports'
- 11 proposed conversion technology definitions.
- 12 The life cycle evaluation of thermal chemical
- 13 conversion was based upon a single technology, a process
- 14 that uses paralysis, requires pre-treatment of its
- 15 feedstock, produces only electricity, and does so through
- 16 combustion of synthesis gas. In a practical sense, it
- 17 really doesn't relate to the BRI process at all.
- 18 BRI would argue that attempting to categorize,
- 19 define, and regulate conversion technologies by specific
- 20 type of technology is not an innovative-wise approach.
- 21 Legislative statute and government regulations cannot keep
- 22 pace with 21st century technological developments and
- 23 clean technologies that utilize waste for liquid and
- 24 electrical energy.
- Instead, we believe that the comprehensive global

- 1 definition of conversion technologies, which is included
- 2 in the Waste Board's own proposed conversion technology
- 3 regulations, is a more appropriate approach that can
- 4 accommodate present and future technologies. We recommend
- 5 that this overall definition be placed in statute, which
- 6 would allow the Waste Board to regulate all of these
- 7 technologies on the basis of standards of performance and
- 8 compliance with current air, water, and other state,
- 9 local, and regional environmental standards, as is done in
- 10 Europe.
- BRI is very excited that the market impact
- 12 assessment studies confirm that conversion technologies
- 13 have the potential to return the lion's share of
- 14 post-recycled waste stream to beneficial use, and also
- 15 could significantly enhance recycling rates for glass,
- 16 metals, and plastics if the diversion credit is granted.
- 17 Yet, it recommends diversion credits only for biochemical
- 18 technologies and does not state how it would treat an
- 19 exciting new technology like ours, which has both
- 20 biochemical and thermal chemical characteristics.
- 21 If conversion technologies contribute to reducing
- 22 the landfilling of post-recycled materials, which is the
- 23 objective of AB 939, they deserve diversion credit and
- 24 should be granted the opportunity to compete equally in a
- 25 free market. At least 31 million tons of post-recycled

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- 1 organic waste were landfilled in California last year.
- 2 This is enough to produce more than 2 billion gallons of
- 3 ethynyl and generate 1500 megawatts of green power using
- 4 the BRI process.
- 5 We'd like to be an active partner in the state's
- 6 efforts towards more green energy, landfill reduction, and
- 7 domestic agreement. We hope the Board will take a hard
- 8 look at this draft report and revise it to best capture
- 9 the immense potential of conversion technologies. Thank
- 10 you.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you, Mr. Stewart.
- We're going to take a ten-minute break. When we
- 13 come back, Michael Theroux, followed by George Larson, and
- 14 then Mike Mohajer, and then Dennis Schuetzle. So over the
- 15 break, gentlemen, you have the opportunity to hone your
- 16 comments.
- 17 (Thereupon a brief recess was taken.)
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We'll get started again.
- 19 My intention is to go until around noon and then take a
- 20 lunch break and then come back and hear the rest of the
- 21 agenda. We'll get through the conversion technology item
- 22 hopefully before noon. We might get to a little of the
- 23 DPLA agenda, depending how quickly it goes in the next few
- 24 minutes.
- 25 So we're going to start with Michael Theroux,

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- 1 followed by George Larson and Mike Mohajer and Dennis
- 2 Schuetzle.
- 3 MR. THEROUX: Chairman Paparian and Board
- 4 members, good morning.
- 5 First, I'd like to compliment staff on an
- 6 amazingly detailed report and on the ability to work
- 7 interactively on difficulties we have in front of us here.
- 8 It's refreshing to be able to keep the dialogue going and
- 9 to know there are opposing views, difficulties,
- 10 determinations to be made.
- 11 With that in mind, I believe my own comments for
- 12 today came into the task force and were included with
- 13 Carlos Reese's comments from the Los Angeles County Task
- 14 Force of what I had submitted came in in that way. I'll
- 15 keep my comments quite brief today.
- 16 There is a discussion regarding where we should
- 17 place anaerobic digestion. And I find that in a very
- 18 recent review that I've completed on in-vessel composting
- 19 we may have problems with the composting regs, but let's
- 20 leave anaerobic and aerobic digestion in that sector. AB
- 21 2770 did not include those initially in the bill as it
- 22 went into the Public Resources Code. And I believe we
- 23 have enough to deal with right now without trying to mix
- 24 those apples and oranges as has been commented. So leave
- 25 the question of anaerobic digestion and aerobic digestion

- 1 and composting for another day's consideration and
- 2 concentrate on those that were the core of the conversion
- 3 technologies at this time.
- 4 Now recognizing -- having said that, Mr. Stewart,
- 5 excellent comments on multiple technologies. It's very
- 6 much appropriate here. These aren't one tool for one
- 7 thing. We've got a whole array of continuity of technical
- 8 approaches. And in many cases, we will find, I think,
- 9 that we combine thermal chemical and biological systems
- 10 into one complex processing technology. And Mr. Stewart's
- 11 BRI Energy is certainly an excellent example of that. So
- 12 be forewarned that is the mode we will enter into as a
- 13 combined multi-technology multi-processing approach.
- I note also that as we leave things off into the
- 15 composting, and we consider at some point in the future,
- 16 other agencies will have to be very deeply involved, as
- 17 I'm sure they are. California Department of Food and
- 18 Agriculture's performance standards for composting are the
- 19 basis right now for what gets to the marketplace. Much of
- 20 that has been formulated in conjunction with the Board in
- 21 the past, and the Water Board as well. We have plenty of
- 22 discussion there. But it is a separate discussion, I
- 23 believe, from that that we should have about conversion
- 24 technologies.
- 25 In our last -- the last time that we were in this

- 1 workshop, I brought out one point and I'd like to stress
- 2 it again. Conversion technology should not be viewed as
- 3 disposal, as the legal equivalent of waste handled in a
- 4 manner constituting disposal. So much of the regulatory
- 5 path we're on hinges upon that legal criteria. If we
- 6 determine that these are, indeed, disposal mechanisms
- 7 rather than something else, then they fit into the
- 8 disposal site facility documents, and they must be put on
- 9 the par in some way for permitting and enforcement of
- 10 disposal sites.
- 11 Please take a look again. It is not discussed in
- 12 the report specifically. The AB 2270 places the Public
- 13 Resources Code now in the position of considering permits
- 14 for conversion technologies as your newest form of
- 15 disposal site. I believe that single error at the start
- 16 is one of the most difficult things we need to look at in
- 17 the revision and the report to the Legislature.
- 18 Two items have come out of discussions. I know
- 19 Dr. Kay Martin has been the most eloquent on this. The
- 20 question is how long have we beat on waste until it's no
- 21 longer a waste? What constitutes cessation of waste? How
- 22 do we make something no longer a waste? The better the
- 23 processing, the better the feedstock. So if we process it
- 24 well enough, what we get out is going to be a lot cleaner.
- 25 But draw a line somewhere and clarify, please, to as what

- 1 no longer is waste. That started as waste, but is no
- 2 longer waste. There's been some excellent guidelines
- 3 provided to you by, I think, Dr. Martin regarding New York
- 4 standards of cessation and waste.
- 5 In that same light, consider again where we are
- 6 with beneficial use and reuse. If it's not a waste, if we
- 7 can do something to make a material that was a waste no
- 8 longer a waste, pull a bottle out, put it back into the
- 9 bottle recycling, then we have a form of reuse. And I
- 10 think most of our technologies that we're in discussion on
- 11 right now fit in that category of reuse, beneficial use.
- 12 The last small note that I'd like to suggest in
- 13 our timing -- and it is critical that we have information
- 14 to the Legislature in this period of time. I believe the
- 15 time line, as Mr. Paparian suggested, is appropriate for
- 16 the process. But I think it's also quite appropriate that
- 17 staff engage in a legislative briefing.
- 18 And I think that the legislators -- a simple
- 19 questionnaire sent out to legislators who are interested
- 20 in this enough right now to participate in a briefing, and
- 21 then the Board take the lead and pull specialists forward
- 22 from different areas, provide white papers, provide
- 23 briefing papers. And between now and the time that the
- 24 report comes in, educate our legislators. And I think
- 25 that's critical to where we are right now. There's too

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- 1 much information for them to be seeing this cold.
- 2 Thank you very much.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Quick question.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Yes, Mr. Chair. I agree
- 5 with you that the conversion technology should not be used
- 6 as a disposal. Do you have a language or, Fernando, have
- 7 we addressed that? Have you provided us specific
- 8 language?
- 9 MR. THEROUX: I have. The difficulties lies in
- 10 the first determination that went into the Code. I mean,
- 11 we carried from AB 2270, which was reflected in SB 1038, a
- 12 statement that said this is your newest form of disposal
- 13 facility. We need -- so I keep backing up trying to find
- 14 where we tripped over the curb. And that particular one
- 15 is my sore spot.
- We need to take a look at these. We don't
- 17 consider composting as disposal. So we need to place it
- 18 in a context similar to composting and other forms of
- 19 reuse and recycling. If we just look for that thread
- 20 within the Public Resources Code that was moved over and
- 21 remove it from the context of being a disposal facility,
- 22 we would have gained worlds right there.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Thank you.
- 24 Fernando.
- 25 SUPERVISOR BERTON: In the existing statute for

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- 1 gasification, the definition for gasification
- 2 specifically, gasification is considered disposal as a
- 3 disposal facility. It's included amongst the list of
- 4 landfill, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. So it would be
- 5 a matter of looking at that language.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: And maybe this is
- 7 something that really needs to -- we need to delve into
- 8 it. Because, you know -- and it might be a philosophical
- 9 difference. I believe that we may be -- we are generating
- 10 something out of this. And whether it's fuel or heat or
- 11 gas or something else, it is the generation of something
- 12 else that, in fact, negates the use or the term disposal,
- 13 because we're actually generating something.
- MR. THEROUX: As Fernando knows, I'll be more
- 15 than happy to work with staff on actual language on that.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: This is one that would
- 17 generate much more controversy than might be evident from
- 18 this. I think if you look at the --
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: That's what I'm saying.
- 20 It might be philosophical.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: If you look at the current
- 22 European approach -- if you look at our current, it's
- 23 reuse, number one. Number two, recycling -- source
- 24 reduction -- recycling and then land disposal and
- 25 transformation are equated in our 40051 definition. If

- 1 you look at the Europeans and what they're doing right
- 2 now, they plug some of the conversion technologies in
- 3 between recycling and land disposal. That's one approach.
- 4 Others would suggest you equate recycling and
- 5 conversion technologies. I think that either way you do
- 6 it, whether you put it in between recycling and land
- 7 disposal, or you equate it with recycling, would be
- 8 something we should delve into in some depth before going
- 9 forward and recommending it. Because it would be a huge,
- 10 huge thing. It's fundamental to this Board, the use of
- 11 the hierarchy. And I think it would be something we would
- 12 need to spend a fair amount of time discussing.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: And I believe we should
- 14 do that, Mr. Chairman. I believe it's time that we -- and
- 15 whether it's a Board or one particular workshop or this
- 16 particular Committee, if that's an issue -- because I
- 17 think that it may be a philosophical difference and it may
- 18 be more than that. I think it's time that at least we
- 19 have a very open discussion about this and the benefits
- 20 and the -- what would you call it? Or the contradictions
- 21 maybe or the differences that some people may have.
- 22 SUPERVISOR BERTON: One thing to point out, too.
- 23 And this is sort of part two of some potential unintended
- 24 consequences. If these kinds of technologies are not
- 25 considered disposal, does that mean then do we lose the

- 1 purview over those facilities? And then the effect -- the
- 2 potential for presorting and the requirement for
- 3 presorting?
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Well, I agree with you,
- 5 Fernando, but I think that goes back to Mr. Theroux's
- 6 comment of when does waste stop being waste, and when does
- 7 it become a feedstock in a manufacturing process? And
- 8 that's what Chairman Marin is saying, is she doesn't view
- 9 this, nor do I view this, as disposal. This can be viewed
- 10 as a manufacturing process. And that is -- I agree with
- 11 Chairman Marin. We need to have this discussion, because
- 12 it's going to drive the whole direction of where we go
- 13 with this. So I think it's critical. I think the timing
- 14 is now that we do have these types of discussions.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: So what I'm hearing the
- 16 Chair describe is that we do need to open up the hierarchy
- 17 to discussion. And I'm thinking about whether we should
- 18 do that here. I mean, that's, you know --
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No. I think what I'm
- 20 saying is we need to clearly define what these processes
- 21 are. And it goes back to the recommendations that staff
- 22 is making in the report. Let's clarify some of these
- 23 definitions. It's not necessarily open the hierarchy --
- 24 reopen the hierarchy. Let's make sure we have our
- 25 definition straight for a number of reasons. Number one,

- 1 we don't want to exclude any technologies that are
- 2 developing every day. And, number two, we need to define
- 3 it as a manufacturing process or disposal process or
- 4 whatever.
- 5 And you know what? We may lose our purview of
- 6 authority to a certain degree. But in my mind, there may
- 7 not be a problem with that as long as we have another
- 8 government agency, whether it's Department of Energy,
- 9 somebody needs to take responsibility for this. And,
- 10 again, that's what I'm reading in the letters that we're
- 11 receiving. So, I mean, these are the kinds of issues that
- 12 we really need to discuss. We need to get on the table.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And I think one thing to
- 14 also keep in mind -- I know the Europeans have been
- 15 brought up quite a bit. One of the things that is central
- 16 to the European system is a much more aggressive recycling
- 17 infrastructure and pre-processing infrastructure that
- 18 assures that recycling -- the manufacturers are very
- 19 actively involved in taking back the product. And what
- 20 the manufacturers don't take back, there's a very
- 21 aggressive system to recycle that, which we don't have in
- 22 California, which makes the discussion even more complex
- 23 than if you're trying to slot the --
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: But that goes back to us
- 25 driving the direction of where we're going to go in

- 1 managing solid waste and recyclables.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: But my point would be that
- 3 if we're going to open up this discussion, then we need to
- 4 think about what we're going to do to push manufacturer
- responsibility and other very aggressive recycling
- 6 options. To try to slot this into the hierarchy somehow
- 7 without that discussion I think would be a mistake.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I agree with you. See,
- 9 I'm looking at it from a much bigger, broader perspective
- 10 in that here we have a Governor who has most recently in
- 11 the State of the State address talked about how energy
- 12 needs to be produced within California. And so, quite
- 13 frankly, conversion technologies will enable Californians
- 14 to create that energy in one way or another.
- So, Mr. Chairman, you know, in one way -- and
- 16 that's why I want to make sure people understand. I don't
- 17 see it as disposal, because we are generating energy.
- 18 We're generating fuel. We're generating something else.
- 19 So it's not like we're disposing of things. We, through
- 20 these technologies, are generating something else. So if
- 21 we're going to be true to what the Governor is attempting
- 22 to do and where he's saying we need to invest and create
- 23 opportunities for California to produce its own resources,
- 24 energy resources, I'm thinking here we have a vast
- 25 opportunity. And it is a challenge in that we need to get

- 1 everybody to come to agreement with us.
- But I agree with you. We need to have the
- 3 recycling infrastructure to do that. But when things can
- 4 no longer be recycled, what would be wrong to utilize that
- 5 to then create fuel, generate fuel? So we have our work
- 6 cut out for us.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Right. That sort of
- 8 pre-processing I think is critical to any of -- not just
- 9 the conversion technology, but a lot of the other
- 10 alternative technologies we've been talking about. That
- 11 keeps us true to the hierarchy to try to push things up
- 12 the hierarchy to their most beneficial use.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Absolutely.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. Next we have George
- 15 Larson.
- 16 Thank you, Mr. Theroux, for helping trigger that
- 17 discussion.
- 18 MR. LARSON: Chairman Paparian, Committee
- 19 members, George Larson. Thank you for the opportunity,
- 20 and I'll try to be brief. I'm speaking on behalf of and
- 21 am a principle in a company called Plastic Energy, which
- 22 is a conversion technology that targets waste plastics
- 23 that do not have a home, are not recycled, which are
- 24 currently going to landfills, and utilizes that to produce
- 25 an ultra low sulfur diesel fuel that will meet upcoming

- 1 emission standards to be imposed by APA.
- When the studies were first announced, I
- 3 anxiously offered our project as one of three studies.
- 4 And, in fact, it is one of three studies. In retrospect,
- 5 given the politicization of this issue, maybe I would not
- 6 have done that. We have been sort of put in a delay
- 7 status, because there's been a lot of politics. Not
- 8 issued by this Board, but by interest groups who would be
- 9 detractors of all conversion technology.
- 10 But I just want to make a few comments about the
- 11 studies. I support -- and all you need to really look at
- 12 I think is the key findings on the slide that Fernando
- 13 presented that talks about energy savings and reduction of
- 14 disposal and reduction of disposal of resources that could
- 15 be otherwise producing higher value products.
- 16 Whether or not it's called recycling is not
- 17 germane at this point. It's not the issue I want to die
- 18 on. I want to see these projects happen and be evaluated
- 19 according to scientific data and then a judgement be made.
- 20 And then we can decide if they need to go on the hierarchy
- 21 or not. Right now, we're spinning our wheels in a project
- 22 like ours that we invested \$3 million of investor/taxpayer
- 23 money is not moving forward. It will move forward.
- 24 That's the point I want to make.
- I think there are data gaps, and that's what's

- 1 come out of the studies. When AB 2770 was drafted, there
- 2 was \$1.2 million that was allocated in early versions of
- 3 the bill towards doing demonstration projects to prove
- 4 these technologies. For whatever reason -- and I won't go
- 5 into that -- that money was diverted to studies. Well,
- 6 the studies are a good investment of money because we need
- 7 science. But I think what it has done is point out where
- 8 science is lacking, and science cannot be answered until
- 9 you actually do some studies. I mean, real bench-type
- 10 studies or demonstration projects.
- I think the definition of conversion technology,
- 12 as has been said by people in here a lot smarter than I
- 13 am, is a complex issue of different kinds. The
- 14 generalization leads to confusion and leads to the
- 15 creation of a bigger target to detractors, because they
- 16 can categorize all conversion technologies under things
- 17 like incinerators in disguise, which defies logic, but
- 18 creates a lot of emotional fervor that helps to defeat or
- 19 delay progress, or at least the analysis of technologies
- 20 that may result in progress.
- 21 Source testing in a forum sponsored by this Board
- 22 in 2001 was recommended that proposals or grants be made
- 23 available for small-scale projects. That was a
- 24 recommendation. I think if AB 2770 had carried through
- 25 with the original intent of providing that money, you

- 1 would have provided some grants, and we wouldn't be here
- 2 discussing whether or not allegations or issues are yet to
- 3 be resolved. We would have some actual scientific data to
- 4 make decisions.
- 5 As to timing, I know the report's late. I don't
- 6 think timing is the issue today. April, I would think, is
- 7 the earliest at which this Board should try to bring a
- 8 report that would be going to the Legislature. I'll flash
- 9 back to AB 939. When it was first enacted, regulations to
- 10 implement that law were due on law day. Obviously, you
- 11 could not do that. We did some obviously intensive work
- 12 when I worked with this Board to try to assist local
- 13 governments to put those and for us to put those
- 14 regulations together.
- There's precedence in history that the
- 16 Legislature can make a mistake. I mean, a date can be
- 17 wrong. I think to be confirmed by your staff, that
- 18 communication has happened. And the author of the bill
- 19 acknowledged that that year is wrong. So you're not going
- 20 to be hung on the cross for another couple of months on
- 21 something that's been going on for two or three years.
- 22 If I understand it, and to be corrected also and
- 23 commented by staff, these consultant reports are just
- 24 that. They're documents based upon investigations done by
- 25 people with a high degree of qualifications to investigate

- 1 their subject matter. This Board can accept or reject any
- 2 portion of those studies. You, the Board, will be
- 3 drafting your report based upon those studies and input
- 4 from people hopefully like me and others in this room and
- 5 others who have written.
- 6 I'm concerned that the energy of issue, which
- 7 Madam Chair Marin just raised, in 2000 and 2001 when half
- 8 the lights were off in this room as a general course for
- 9 these Board meetings, energy conservation was a big issue.
- 10 Maybe it's not that big of an issue today, but I believe
- 11 it is. I think we shouldn't lose sight of that,
- 12 especially since it was just reiterated by Governor
- 13 Schwarzenegger.
- 14 I'm here to acknowledge our project in Kings
- 15 County is in a corner. We're not dead. We're not
- 16 defeated. We're not going away. We are asking for your
- 17 support, and we will be asking others for support to do
- 18 the demonstration necessary on a pilot or bench basis to
- 19 answer the specific questions that need to be answered.
- 20 And right now our client is the San Joaquin Valley Air
- 21 Quality Management District who needs that data. The
- 22 issues were raised. We acknowledge the data is necessary.
- 23 We're trying to find a way to provide the data so our
- 24 project can move forward, so you can point to our project
- 25 and say, look, it works or it doesn't. We're willing to

- 1 take that test. We want to get there.
- Somebody said earlier we need a vision. We all
- 3 need a vision. And I hope this Board will adopt the
- 4 vision that it first enthusiastically adopted when
- 5 conversion technology was thought to be something that
- 6 this Board should move on to. There wasn't a term in
- 7 1989.
- 8 I respect the hierarchy, and I concur with Scott
- 9 Smithline from Californians Against Waste that this is not
- 10 the time to really be addressing restructuring the
- 11 hierarchy. We can address that when we know the facts
- 12 about projects that may or may not alter the priorities.
- 13 And by alter it doesn't mean better or worse or compost
- 14 has to go. As we've discussed in the previous project,
- 15 these are complex. These are not vertical issues. These
- 16 are horizontal issues that intermingle with one another.
- 17 So we can't just cut out compost and cut out ADC and cut
- 18 out conversion technology. They all have to be
- 19 considered.
- 20 Finally, I think this is the most important issue
- 21 this or any previous Board has considered since the
- 22 implementation or the enactment of AB 939. I think the
- 23 success that this and the previous Boards have provided in
- 24 leadership to local government and to private industry,
- 25 who really does the work, is a model for the success of

- 1 the Board thus far. I think if the same vision and the
- 2 same positive attitude is adopted by this Board as it
- 3 relates to conversion technology and not get sidetracked
- 4 into political issues, you have the opportunity here to be
- 5 the leader for the next ten years, like you were for the
- 6 last ten.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 9 Mike Mohajer.
- 10 MR. MOHAJER: Good morning, Chair, Chair, and
- 11 Board Member. My name is Mike Mohajer, and I'm
- 12 representing myself. And I believe you got the letter
- 13 that was faxed to you yesterday from the task force.
- 14 However, the task force will not making a formal decision
- 15 until the 20th. And then you also have -- I'm speaking on
- 16 my own behalf, and I did provide the e-mail.
- 17 Unfortunately, as I was sitting back there listening to
- 18 the discussion with Michael Theroux, I think I have
- 19 answered all those questions.
- 20 But a couple of things that I just wanted to
- 21 mention, that one of the things that bothered me about the
- 22 recommendation -- in my writing, I've already thanked
- 23 Fernando for all the darn good work he has been doing,
- 24 especially coming down to L.A. County working with the
- 25 Advisory Committee and everything else. I can't put a

- 1 limit in that.
- 2 But one of the things that that Board do in the
- 3 past several years -- I have been involved with this issue
- 4 since 1998 specifically, which resulted in our County
- 5 Board of Supervisors and many cities in L.A. County to go
- 6 to these conversion technology, changing the hierarchy of
- 7 waste management. And so it isn't anything new to us.
- 8 But as a part of that work, we worked with the Waste
- 9 Board, other organizations that involved in addition to
- 10 L.A. County was Ventura County, Leagues of Cities, CSAC,
- 11 SWANA, SCAG from Southern California.
- 12 And the Board developed certain policy towards
- 13 conversion technology both thermal and bio. And in those,
- 14 they provided diversion credit, subject to certain
- 15 recommendations. This recommendation that I see in this
- 16 report completely ignored the activities that we had
- 17 accomplished, at least in those last several years and
- 18 there's study in new arena.
- 19 So I'm going to go a little bit more specific as
- 20 to what my recommendations were in my e-mail that
- 21 addresses the specific questions. So first I said, I'm
- 22 going to -- we need a solid waste management system that
- 23 promotes innovative technology for the 21st century,
- 24 rather than belaboring the outdated 20th century
- 25 technology system and unfounded and unsubstantiated

- 1 skepticism and fear of being promoted by few interest
- 2 groups.
- 3 The Waste Board and its members need to take
- 4 leadership, while taking advantage of the report's
- 5 findings -- not recommendations -- findings in formulating
- 6 legislative recommendation that moves California into 21st
- 7 century world. And I'm emphasizing. If we are looking at
- 8 the global, the report comes and talks about all the
- 9 recyclables goes to China. This is not California. This
- 10 is not U.S. This is global. So you have to broaden your
- 11 view.
- 12 The first item that Madam Chair asked was that
- 13 what are the conversion technology. And I suggested
- 14 conversion technology should be defined as listed in the
- 15 proposed Section 1740284 of the Title 14, which very
- 16 specifically -- I just pulled it out -- reads, "Conversion
- 17 technology" -- this is what are they. "Conversion
- 18 technology means the processing through non-combustion,
- 19 thermal, chemical, or biological process, other than
- 20 composting of solid waste, including, but not limited to,
- 21 organic material, such as paper, yard trimming, wood
- 22 waste," and goes on. This is what it was prepared by your
- 23 staff, and it is part of the proposed regulation that was
- 24 considered by the Permitting Committee on December 6th,
- 25 4th, something like that.

- 1 So the definition has already been established.
- 2 So this report that has come out totally ignore that and
- 3 start micro-managing. We want to have a gasification. I
- 4 want to have anaerobic digestion. I want to have this. I
- 5 want to have that. For every one of them, then you have
- 6 to go through the process of establish regulations.
- 7 Number two, the definition the transformation
- 8 statute should be replaced, and I agree with the report's
- 9 recommendation which says replace the transformation and
- 10 just limit it to combustion as suggested in the report to
- 11 be defined as "thermal destruction in oxygen rich
- 12 environment of solid waste for generation of heat and
- 13 subsequent energy production."
- 14 Number three, how do we get the conversion
- 15 technology out of the disposal definition? The only way
- 16 you can do it -- there is no other possible way that I
- 17 know of -- is change the hierarchy that was established by
- 18 AB 939. As Mr. Paparian indicated, this is the way it is
- 19 defined. It is not based on science. It is not based on
- 20 engineering. It is not based on technical. It's based
- 21 purely by political ramification at that time.
- I said this, the solid waste management hierarchy
- 23 established by AB 939 in 1989 -- we're talking about 25
- 24 years ago, or 15 years ago -- should be revised and
- 25 updated for the 21st century by promoting the following

- 1 waste management practices in order of priority: Source
- 2 reduction, recycling, composting, and other beneficial
- 3 recovery uses, such as conversion technology, and then
- 4 disposal and incineration.
- Now, what are we doing about the credit for what
- 6 is going on for the existing recycling? I said that
- 7 jurisdictions shall be provided with diversion credit,
- 8 provided that, A, jurisdictions pass and will continue to
- 9 implement its recycling and other diversion programs
- 10 identified in the Board-approved source reduction and
- 11 recycling element, which all those documents were prepared
- 12 and the Board approved. And this will take out the
- 13 pre-recycling that some groups are concerned with.
- 14 And then I go into one step further and made it
- 15 more restrictive and said, consistent with other
- 16 requirement of the Board indicated in Resolution 2003-177,
- 17 Option 3.
- 18 And then the next one is how to develop and allow
- 19 permitting for this facility as a conversion technology
- 20 facility must comply with the standards of performance set
- 21 by federal and state regulatory agency. So you set this
- 22 standard like any other industry, that we want you to do
- 23 X, Y, and Z. If you meet those requirement, fine, you can
- 24 operate. If you don't, then you can't. Very simple. But
- 25 for this technology, we are taking a completely back road,

- 1 and I don't know why.
- 2 And then I also concluded. I said that part of
- 3 the report, especially the beginning of it, I said that
- 4 after the executive summary, the way the report is written
- 5 is very negatively biased towards conversion technology
- 6 based on unsubstantiated air emission concerns -- and
- 7 we're emphasizing this. I know there are people over here
- 8 that totally disagree, but these are the facts.
- 9 Unsubstantiated air emission concern due to a lack of data
- 10 from facilities in California, because none has been
- 11 allowed to be developed due to existing legislative
- 12 constraint and prohibition.
- 13 So as, Madam Chair, you indicated the other day,
- 14 you don't let them develop it to find the data and then
- 15 you come after them. And the report has called out very
- 16 specifically quite a few of these facilities in Japan, in
- 17 Europe, that, for example, we bring the e-waste and
- 18 everything else that Mr. Paparian is support, myself, too,
- 19 and they have this facilities. They have regulations.
- 20 They do have the data. The data are available as you
- 21 indicated, Mr. Relis has indicated. So why not put out
- 22 those data? If they're looking at air emission, look at
- 23 those and move forward, rather than spending more and more
- 24 and more and more and study and report and that sort of
- 25 thing.

- 1 So I hope that -- it is my recommendation -- it's
- 2 short. It is brief. But for some -- I'm not employed by
- 3 anybody. So you would know, I don't represent anybody.
- 4 This is something that I strongly believe in, nor am I
- 5 proposing this recommendation to be employed by anybody in
- 6 the future, because I'm not, nor would I be accepting,
- 7 even if they offered me. But my offer is there. If I can
- 8 work with the staff, we have with Fernando for quite a few
- 9 years and will continue to do that.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you, Mr. Mohajer.
- 11 Dr. Dennis Schuetzle, and then I think that's the
- 12 last speaker slip that I have. Okay.
- 13 MR. SCHUETZLE: Since we're very close to lunch,
- 14 I'll just take a couple of minutes. Thank you very much.
- 15 I'm Dennis Schuetzle. I represent the Renewable
- 16 Energy Institute International, which is a nonprofit
- 17 organization. We have centers in several countries and
- 18 are comprised of quite a number of prominent scientists
- 19 and engineers. And we're technology neutral, I must say.
- 20 So we look at all technology as having a potential to
- 21 solve these problems. And in that light, we believe that
- 22 it's very important that what this document that has been
- 23 put together is a great step forward. Redefining some of
- 24 these terms, like gasification, incineration is very
- 25 important. So we don't exclude any particular technology.

- 1 I think the report has gone a long way in meeting
- 2 that requirement. There are a few tweaks that are needed.
- 3 There are several of us that have looked at the report.
- 4 There are several tweaks that are needed to make it a
- 5 little more scientifically credible, a little more
- 6 generic, and we've transmitted those comments back to
- 7 Fernando and his team.
- 8 I might say, too, that Chair Mulé has suggested
- 9 that we have a peer review of the report. And I would
- 10 agree with that. As being a peer reviewer of many reports
- 11 over many years, it's very difficult to get people to, of
- 12 course, respond in a short period of time. I think I know
- 13 enough people out there in the scientific community, not
- 14 only in the United States but internationally, who owe me
- 15 a favor, who I will tweak to try to get their comments on
- 16 this report as soon as possible. So I will work with
- 17 Fernando and your team to try to get that peer review done
- 18 as soon as possible.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Just so we're clear,
- 20 CalEPA actually has a peer review process. And I invite
- 21 your colleagues to comment on the report and so forth.
- 22 But that may be somewhat different than what the
- 23 structured peer review process that we have available to
- 24 us.
- 25 MR. SCHUETZLE: I know peer review boards both

- 1 through the Academy of Sciences in several countries, et
- 2 cetera, et cetera. They can always add people. That's
- 3 easy to do, because they're always looking for good peer
- 4 reviewers. It's just a matter of tweaking the process.
- 5 I'm not so worried about that.
- The other thing, our team, because we're
- 7 international, have knowledge of these technologies in
- 8 other countries. It's true, the Europeans, the Asians,
- 9 especially the Japanese are ahead of us. They have a lot
- 10 of data that we have not looked at. There has been, as
- 11 we've just heard, testing of emissions data on several
- 12 systems. We do have systems in this country -- actually,
- 13 I was supposed to go to North Dakota this weekend. Didn't
- 14 make it because of the weather, which probably is good
- 15 because it was minus 20 there. But this is one of the
- 16 biggest gasification systems in the world. This is the
- 17 report of it. It's in North Dakota. It's a \$2 billion
- 18 facility. And the technologies have been well worked out
- 19 on a very large scale. And the emissions from these
- 20 systems is very low. There's lots of data like this out
- 21 there that we can bring to bear on issues of environmental
- 22 acceptance.
- 23 And then, finally, because in the past I've
- 24 worked in many countries -- I was in charge for Ford Motor
- 25 Company for research and technology for 18 countries. I

- 1 know these countries, especially China. I know where
- 2 they're going with recycling and renewables. And one of
- 3 our centers is in Chengdu. Another center is in
- 4 Chongqing, China. And we'd be glad to work with your
- 5 Board to help tie these groups in these other countries
- 6 with your particular needs. So thank you very much.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 8 What's the pleasure of the Committee? Should we
- 9 discuss this now or would you like to think about it over
- 10 the lunch and come back to it?
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Mr. Chairman, if I may,
- 12 I do have a commitment with people from U.S. EPA that I
- 13 have to leave to go to now. I probably will not be back
- 14 until at least 2:00, but I would like to continue the
- 15 discussion of this, Mr. Chairman, at that time, if you
- 16 would. But I support whatever you and Ms. Mulé would do.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: That's fine. We can take
- 18 our lunch break and hear -- my intention will be to come
- 19 back at 1:30 promptly and start the DPLA agenda and then
- 20 come back to this for a little fuller discussion amongst
- 21 the Board members.
- 22 And then so everybody knows, I had a conversation
- 23 with Patty Wohl over the break about all the written
- 24 comments that we've received. And what Patty agreed is
- 25 that we would try to post those letters on our website so

- 1 that everybody has the opportunity to have available what
- 2 comments have been made by everybody else. And then I
- 3 don't know how quickly that can happen. It depends on our
- 4 computer folks. But that would be the intention to post
- 5 those letters on our website.
- 6 We'll take a break now and come back at 1:30, go
- 7 into the DPLA agenda at that time. And sometime after
- 8 2:00, we'll come back for the Board member discussion of
- 9 this item.
- 10 (Thereupon a lunch recess was taken.)
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. We'll start up here
- 12 as a Subcommittee of Board Member Mulé and myself. Board
- 13 Member Marin will be joining us in a while. We're going
- 14 to go over the DPLA items. We'll see how fast we get
- 15 through those. Maybe we can get through those and back to
- 16 the final word on the conversion technology item.
- 17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Pat Schiavo, Diversion,
- 18 Planning, and Local Assistance Division.
- In the interest of time, I will postpone comments
- 20 until next month, since we have a lot of items.
- 21 We will start out with Item 12, Committee Item F.
- 22 It's Consideration of the 2001-2002 Biennial Review
- 23 Findings for a whole lot of Household Hazardous Waste
- 24 Elements. And Steve Sorelle will present this item.
- 25 SUPERVISOR SORELLE: Good afternoon, Committee

- 1 members.
- 2 Board staff have completed their 2001-2002
- 3 biennial review for the HHWE, Household Hazardous Waste
- 4 Elements, for the jurisdictions identified in this agenda
- 5 item in accordance with the biennial review process
- 6 approved by the Board in May 2004.
- 7 Staff review indicates these jurisdictions have
- 8 adequately complied with the implementation requirements
- 9 of PRC Section 41850 by successfully implementing
- 10 Household Hazardous Waste programs. For this reason,
- 11 staff is recommending approval of the 2001-2002 biennial
- 12 review findings for the HHWEs for these jurisdictions.
- 13 This concludes my presentation. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions? Ready for
- 15 the motion.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Okay. I would like to
- 17 move approval of Resolution 2005-01.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And I'll second that.
- 19 Call the roll.
- 20 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Marin?
- 21 Mulé?
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Aye.
- 23 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Paparian?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Aye.
- I think what we'll do on all these is hold the

- 1 roll open so Board Member Marin can add on if she wants,
- 2 and then we'll make a determination on consent on all
- 3 those.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: The next item is
- 5 Committee Item G. This is Consideration of the Amended
- 6 Nondisposal Facility Element for the Unincorporated Area
- 7 of Riverside County. They met all requirements, and staff
- 8 is recommending approval.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: This is your old
- 10 territory.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Yes, it is. So without
- 12 any questions, I would like to move approval of Resolution
- 13 2005-02.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. We'll
- 15 substitute the previous roll call.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Item H is Consideration
- 17 of the Calaveras County Regional Agency Formation Joint
- 18 Exercise of Powers Agreement between the County of
- 19 Calaveras and the City of the Angels Camp. And Natalie
- 20 Lee will present this item.
- MS. LEE: Good afternoon, Committee members.
- 22 The unincorporated area of Calaveras County and
- 23 the City of Angels Camp approved a Joint Exercise of
- 24 Powers Agreement establishing the Calaveras County
- 25 Regional Agency in September of 2003. They submitted the

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1 agreement to staff in November of 2003 requesting approval

- 2 of the Regional Agency.
- 3 Staff has been unable to present the Joint Powers
- 4 Agreement for Board consideration prior to this time
- 5 because the two jurisdictions have been working under
- 6 separate 1066 agreements. Those agreements had original
- 7 terms ending December 31st of 2004. The preliminary
- 8 review shows that the jurisdictions have completed the
- 9 implementation of programs under the 1066 plans. And the
- 10 final reports will be submitted in the near future.
- 11 Staff is presenting the JPA for consideration and
- 12 is requesting that Calaveras County Regional Agency be
- 13 established and considered effective January 1 of 2005.
- 14 The Office of Local Assistance and the Legal Office staff
- 15 have reviewed the subject document to ensure the JPA meets
- 16 the statutory requirements of the Public Resources Code
- 17 and Board regulations regarding regional agency formation.
- 18 Staff recommends approval of the Calaveras County
- 19 Regional Agency formation Joint Exercise of Powers
- 20 Agreement, forming a regional agency between the County of
- 21 Calaveras and the City of Angels Camp.
- 22 Are there any questions?
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Let me just ask, so the
- 24 December 31st deadline we will be getting the reports on
- 25 how well both jurisdictions did sometime in the near

- 1 future? And can you give us a preliminary indication?
- 2 MS. LEE: Both jurisdictions have fully
- 3 implemented the programs that they committed to. Of
- 4 course, we won't have diversion rate numbers for another
- 5 year, but we are satisfied with their implementation of
- 6 the programs. The County has actually been working under
- 7 a Joint Powers Agreement with the City since 1975 for a
- 8 solid waste implementation. So any changes or additional
- 9 programs that would need to be implemented, they are
- 10 committed to doing that on behalf of all member agencies.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. Any other
- 12 questions?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No. I have none.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: There's a couple
- 15 representatives here. I just want to acknowledge them if
- 16 they're still here.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I think they left. They
- 18 were here earlier, though.
- 19 So with that, I'd like to move Resolution
- 20 2005-03.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 22 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Natalie Lee will also
- 24 be presenting Committee Item I, which is Consideration of
- 25 Five-Year Review Report for the Countywide Integrated

- 1 Waste Management Plan for the County of Plumas.
- 2 MS. LEE: Each county and regional agency in
- 3 California is required to review the Countywide Integrated
- 4 Waste Management Plan every five years and provide a
- 5 review report with findings to the Board. Plumas County's
- 6 five-year review report was delivered to Board staff on
- 7 June 21st, 2004. After review of the initial report,
- 8 staff required some additional information to complete
- 9 their review. This was obtained during biennial review
- 10 process. The biennial review for the county was approved
- 11 in December 2004.
- 12 The County in its five-year review report has
- 13 determined that no revision of the Integrated Waste
- 14 Management Plan is necessary at this time. The finding is
- 15 consistent with the recommendation of the local task
- 16 force. The review report is included in the item as an
- 17 attachment. And Board staff has determined that the
- 18 County has addressed all the required elements in the
- 19 five-year review report and concurs with the County's
- 20 finding that no revision is necessary.
- 21 Therefore, staff's recommendation is that the
- 22 Board approve Plumas County's five-year review report,
- 23 finding that no revision to the Countywide Integrated
- 24 Waste Management Plan is required.
- 25 This concludes the presentation. I can answer

- 1 any questions you may have.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I just had a quick
- 3 question. I think it's probably more for Pat.
- When I read this, I noted they have out-of-county
- 5 capacity as part of their 15-year capacity. Is that
- 6 unusual? I don't remember seeing many jurisdictions do
- 7 that.
- 8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: That's very unusual.
- 9 Yeah.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: But it's allowable?
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: It's allowable.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any other questions?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: And I assume then all the
- 14 discrepancies in waste reporting -- I saw that Portola had
- 15 underestimated and just had some discrepancies. Those
- 16 have all been resolved then to our satisfaction?
- 17 MS. LEE: They have. The City of Portola closed
- 18 their city landfill and started using the county's basic
- 19 infrastructure through their transfer station and then
- 20 hauling out of state to Lockwood. In 2002 and 2003 was
- 21 that transition time. So they are undergoing some changes
- 22 in reporting, but we are satisfied that they're adequately
- 23 and appropriately reporting.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Okay. Thank you.
- 25 With that, I would like to move approval of

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- 1 Resolution 2005-04.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 3 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: The next item is
- 5 Committee Item J, and this is Consideration of the
- 6 Five-Year Review Report for the Regional Agency Integrated
- 7 Waste Management Plan for the Inyo Regional Waste
- 8 Management Agency. And Yasmin Satter will make this
- 9 presentation and a few others after that.
- 10 MS. SATTER: Good afternoon, Board members.
- 11 Inyo Regional Agency has submitted its first
- 12 five-year review of the Countywide Integrated Waste
- 13 Management Plan. The County determined that a revision of
- 14 the County's plan was not necessary at this time. Board
- 15 staff has evaluated the County's report and determined
- 16 that the required elements have been addressed.
- 17 Therefore, it is staff's recommendation that the Board
- 18 approve the County's assessment that no revision is
- 19 necessary.
- 20 Representatives from the City are present to
- 21 answer any questions you may have. This concludes my
- 22 presentation.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Then I move approval of
- 24 Resolution 2005-05.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And

- 1 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Committee Item K, which
- 3 will also be presented by Yasmin, is Consideration of a
- 4 Request to Correct the 2000 Base Year for the Previously
- 5 Approved Source Reduction Recycling Element for the City
- 6 of Stockton, San Joaquin County.
- 7 MS. SATTER: Good afternoon, again.
- 8 The City of Stockton originally submitted a
- 9 correction request with a diversion rate of 54 percent for
- 10 2000. As a result of the base year correction review,
- 11 deductions were made to diversion amounts claimed by the
- 12 city. These adjustments can be viewed in detail by
- 13 referring to Attachment 3 of the agenda item packet. With
- 14 these changes, the City of Stockton's diversion rate for
- 15 2000 is 49 percent. However, with the addition of biomass
- 16 credit, the City's 2000 diversion rate would be 55
- 17 percent. No extrapolations were used to calculate
- 18 diversion amounts. This request is well documented and is
- 19 generally consistant with Board standards for accuracy.
- 20 Therefore, staff recommends the Board approve the request
- 21 to correct the 2000 base year for the City of Stockton.
- 22 Representative from the City are also present
- 23 today for any question you may have. And this concludes
- 24 my presentation. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I just have a question
- 2 on -- I guess it's -- I'm not sure -- Attachment 3 where
- 3 we're looking at the generator identification and staff
- 4 verification. And under the bottom one there, the cannery
- 5 waste, and I guess we couldn't verify that that -- what is
- 6 the intention?
- 7 MS. SATTER: They couldn't document that tonnage.
- 8 They were not able to provide the documentation that this
- 9 waste was generated within the city limit.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: That it was generated in
- 11 the first place, or that they did something with it other
- 12 than dispose of it?
- 13 MS. SATTER: Well, they though they have some
- 14 cannery waste, but they were not able to provide us the
- 15 documentation that waste is there. They were just -- they
- 16 didn't have the resources to track it down.
- 17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Whether it is generated
- 18 within that jurisdiction's boundaries.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Okay. Thank you.
- 20 With that, I'd move approval of Resolution
- 21 2005-06.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 23 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: And Yasmin is here one
- $25\,\,$ more time for Committee Item L. And this is Consideration

- 1 for Request to Change the Base Year to 2001 for the
- 2 Previously Approved Source Reduction and Recycling Element
- 3 for the City of Tracy in San Joaquin County.
- 4 MS. SATTER: The City of Tracy originally
- 5 submitted a new base year change request with a diversion
- 6 rate of 69 percent for 2001. As a result of the base year
- 7 study review, deductions with made to diversion amounts
- 8 claimed by the city. These adjustments can be viewed in
- 9 detail by referring to Attachment 3 of the agenda item
- 10 packet. With these changes, the City of Tracy's diversion
- 11 rate for 2001 is 60 percent. However, with the addition
- 12 of biomass credit, the City's 2001 diversion rate would be
- 13 63 percent. No extrapolations were used to calculate
- 14 diversion amount. This request is well documented and is
- 15 generally consistant with Board standards for accuracy.
- 16 Therefore, staff recommends the Board approve the request
- 17 to change the base year for the City of Tracy to the year
- 18 2001.
- 19 Representatives from the city are present to
- 20 answer any questions you may have. This concludes my
- 21 presentation. Thanks.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I have no questions.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Go ahead and move.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I move approval of

- 1 Resolution 2005-07.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. We'll
- 3 substitute the previous roll call.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Thank you.
- 5 Item 19 is Consideration of Request to Change the
- 6 Base Year to 2001 for the Previously Approved Source
- 7 Reduction Recycling Element and Consideration of the
- 8 Petition for Sludge Diversion Credit for the
- 9 Unincorporated County of Monterey. And this is Committee
- 10 Item M presented by Marshalle Graham.
- 11 MS. GRAHAM: Good afternoon, Committee Chair,
- 12 Committee members.
- 13 The County originally submitted a new base year
- 14 request with the diversion rate of 58 percent. As a part
- 15 of the new base year study review, Board staff conducted
- 16 detailed on-site verification visits. As a result of this
- 17 review, Board staff recommends a revised diversion rate of
- 18 57 percent for the base year of 2001.
- 19 Board staff has also thoroughly reviewed the
- 20 County's petition for sludge diversion credit and has
- 21 concluded that the County has demonstrated compliance with
- 22 the applicable statutory conditions. Board staff has
- 23 determined that the information for both the new base year
- 24 as well as the County's petition for sludge diversion
- 25 credit is adequately documented. Therefore, Board staff

- 1 is recommending Option 3 of the agenda item, which would
- 2 approve the revised base year with staff recommendations
- 3 as well as approve the petition for sludge diversion
- 4 credit.
- 5 Representatives for the County are present to
- 6 assist in answering any questions that you have. This
- 7 concludes my presentation.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you. Did the
- 9 representative from the County want to speak?
- 10 Ms. Diridoni.
- 11 MS. DIRIDONI: Good afternoon, Chair Paparian,
- 12 and Chairwoman. My name is Jessica Diridoni, and I'm here
- 13 today on behalf of the Monterey County Health Department.
- 14 Monterey County is committed to meeting and exceeding AB
- 15 939 by continuing its comprehensive recycling program
- 16 implementation, monitoring, and education. The County's
- 17 programs focus on technical assistance and increasing
- 18 residential business, county facility, and special event
- 19 diversion. The County also administers two solid waste
- 20 franchise agreements, a countywide oil and filter
- 21 recycling program, a Monterey Bay Area Green Business
- 22 Program, and participates in our recycling market
- 23 development zone.
- The opportunity to prepare a new base year study
- 25 has allowed the County to establish a more accurate

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- 1 baseline to measure and report the success of diversion
- 2 programs. During a two-year period, the County Health
- 3 Department staff gathered data and conducted over 125
- 4 waste assessments. The study was submitted to CIWMB staff
- 5 in 2003 without extrapolation of diversion data. In
- 6 September 2004, Office of Local Assistance staff completed
- 7 site visits to the top business generators in the
- 8 unincorporated area and continued to correspond with the
- 9 County to complete the verification process.
- 10 We would like to acknowledge Board staff for
- 11 their invaluable technical assistance throughout the
- 12 review and verification. Monterey County is pleased to
- 13 present our new base year generation study and thanks your
- 14 Board for consideration. Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And thank you. I know the
- 16 County has been very enthusiastically implementing
- 17 programs the last few years, and it's good to see that's
- 18 continuing.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I have no questions. So
- 20 with that, I'd like to move Resolution 2005-08.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 22 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Item Committee Item N
- 24 is Consideration of Request to Change the Base Year to
- 25 2000, and Consideration of the 2001 -- and should read

- 1 2002 -- Biennial Review Findings and Consideration of
- 2 Petition for Sludge Diversion Credit for the City of
- 3 Livermore in Alameda County. And I would just like to
- 4 mention the dates are correct in the Resolution and the
- 5 item itself. And two items in a row did that for some
- 6 reason. I'm not sure why. But they are correct in other
- 7 parts of the document. And Eric Bissinger will present
- 8 this item.
- 9 MR. BISSINGER: Good afternoon, Committee
- 10 members.
- 11 The City originally submitted a new base year
- 12 change request with a diversion rate of 51 percent for
- 13 2000. As part of the base year study review, Board staff
- 14 conducted a detailed site visit in August of 2004.
- As a result, staff is recommending some changes
- 16 to the diversion study. These changes can be seen in
- 17 their entirety in Attachment 3 of the agenda item. With
- 18 these changes, Livermore's diversion rate for 2000's new
- 19 base year would be 45 percent.
- 20 Board staff also conducted a 2001-2002 biennial
- 21 review of the City's Source Reduction Recycling Element
- 22 and Household Hazardous Waste Element in accordance with
- 23 the program implementation to date and determined the
- 24 City's level of program implementation is adequate.
- In addition, the City has submitted documentation

- 1 for a biomass claim which increases the 2001 diversion
- 2 rate by 10 percent to equal 63 percent and increases the
- 3 2002 diversion rate by 6 percent to equal 51 percent.
- 4 Staff therefore recommends the Board adopt Option
- 5 2. Representatives of Livermore are present to answer any
- 6 questions. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I just have a question
- 9 for staff. I've noticed when I reviewed all these items
- 10 that there are a number of jurisdictions that are applying
- 11 for that sludge diversion credit. Is this something that
- 12 is new or that the jurisdictions were unaware of? I'm
- 13 just curious as to why it seems like all of a sudden now
- 14 all these jurisdictions are requesting this credit that
- 15 they never received before, or have they?
- 16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: I think it's just
- 17 happenstance. It's always been there. We've had some of
- 18 this occur in the past. We're not doing any more to
- 19 promote it, that I'm aware of. But it's always been
- 20 available.
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: But I guess my question
- 22 is, were the jurisdictions unaware of this diversion
- 23 credit? Because I did speak with a jurisdiction yesterday
- 24 who was unaware that this diversion credit was out there.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: It's been publicized.

- 1 From time to time we have discussions. But there's also a
- 2 lot of turn over from time to time, so it could be just a
- 3 gap of information in that particular jurisdiction.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I guess that's my point
- 5 is that for our Local Assistance staff, I know you all do
- 6 a great job out there, but when cities or counties get new
- 7 staff on board, you might want to just kind of go over all
- 8 the rules with them just to orient them as to what they
- 9 can and can't count in their diversion programs.
- 10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: If they're going to be
- 11 doing a new base year, that is part of the process.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I just wanted to comment.
- 13 I appreciate the work that staff did in zeroing in on some
- 14 questionable items. They weren't big tonnage-wise, but I
- 15 think it was important to catch some of the items you
- 16 caught on this. Good work.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: With that, I'd like to
- 18 move Resolution 2005-09.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 20 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Eric will be presenting
- 22 Committee Item O. That's Consideration of Request to
- 23 Change the Base Year to 2003 and Consideration of the
- 24 2001-2002 Biennial Review Findings for the City of San
- 25 Ramon, Contra Costa County. And the dates are correct in

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- 1 the Resolution and the item.
- 2 MR. BISSINGER: The City originally submitted a
- 3 new base year change request with the diversion rate of 49
- 4 percent for 2003. As a result, staff is recommending some
- 5 changes to the diversion study. These changes can be seen
- 6 in the entirety of Attachment 3 of the agenda item.
- 7 With these changes, San Ramon's diversion rate
- 8 for 2003 would be 54 percent. Board staff has determined
- 9 that the base year change request is adequately
- 10 documented. Also, the City's level of program
- 11 implementation has been determined to be adequate.
- 12 Staff therefore recommends the Board adopt Option
- 13 2 and find that the City of San Ramon has at a minimum
- 14 continued to implement programs consistent with
- 15 Board-approved program levels in 2001-2002 biennial review
- 16 cycle and approve the City's base year change request with
- 17 staff's recommended changes. Representatives from San
- 18 Ramon are here. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions? Go ahead.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I would like to move
- 21 Resolution 2005-10.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 23 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Committee Item P is
- 25 Consideration of a Request to Change the Base Year to

- 1 2002, and Consideration of the 2001-2002 Biennial Review
- 2 Findings for the City of Los Altos, Santa Clara County.
- 3 Kathy Davis will present this item.
- 4 MS. DAVIS: Hi. Good afternoon. The City
- 5 requested a 51 percent diversion rate for to 2002 new base
- 6 year. With the Board staff recommended new base year, the
- 7 City's diversion rate would be 50 percent for 2002. In
- 8 addition, staff conducted a 2001-2002 biennial review of
- 9 the City's Source Reduction and Recycling Element and
- 10 Household Hazardous Waste Element program implementation
- 11 and diversion rate achieved. Staff review indicated the
- 12 City is adequately implementing source reduction,
- 13 recycling, composting, and public education and
- 14 information programs.
- Board staff recommends the Board adopt Option
- 16 Number 2. A city representative, Mr. Jim Gustafson, is
- 17 present to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Questions?
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No questions. I would
- 20 like to move Resolution 2005-11.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that. And
- 22 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Kathy will also be
- 24 presenting Item Q. That's Consideration of Request to
- 25 Change the Base Year to 2000 and Consideration of the

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1 2001-02 Biennial Review Findings for the City of Dublin in

- 2 Alameda County.
- 3 MS. DAVIS: The City originally submitted a new
- 4 base year change request with a diversion rate of 55
- 5 percent for 2000. As a result of Board staff's
- 6 verification of the City's claimed diversion, staff is
- 7 recommending some changes to the diversion study. These
- 8 changes can be seen in their entirety in Attachment 3 of
- 9 this agenda item. With these changes, Dublin's diversion
- 10 rate for the 2000 new base year would be 51 percent. In
- 11 addition, the City submitted documentation for a biomass
- 12 claim which increases the 2000 diversion rate to 7 percent
- 13 to equal 58 percent. Board staff also conducted a
- 14 2001-2002 biennial review of the City's SRRE and HHWE
- 15 program implementation to date and determined that the
- 16 City's level of program implementation is adequate. In
- 17 addition, the City has submitted documentation for a
- 18 biomass claim, which increases the '01 diversion rate by 4
- 19 percent to equal 55 percent and increases the '02 rate by
- 20 1 percent to equal 51 percent.
- 21 Staff therefore recommends the Board adopt Option
- 22 2. Representatives of Dublin, Mr. Jason Beriman, are
- 23 present to answer any questions. Thank you.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I just have a quick
- 25 question on the biomass. It says biomass -- the tonnage

- 1 was removed because it wasn't calculated in their new base
- 2 year study. Why was that?
- 3 BRANCH MANAGER MORGAN: Cara Morgan, Office of
- 4 Local Assistance. When we do a base year, by statute,
- 5 biomass is not put into the base year. It's calculated
- 6 into the report year. It's just a technicality. When
- 7 they filled out the cert form, they included it in the
- 8 base year so they had to remove it.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: If I'm figuring the
- 11 biomass numbers right, it seems that the diversion numbers
- 12 without biomass have been fairly consistant for the last
- 13 three years, and the biomass accounts for pretty much the
- 14 fluctuation from 58 down to 51. Okay.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: With that, I'd like to
- 16 move Resolution 2005-12.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'll second that, and
- 18 we'll substitute the previous roll call.
- 19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: I'd like to combine
- 20 Committee Items R and S, and these are Consideration of
- 21 Request to Change the Base Year to 2000, and Consideration
- 22 of the Application for an SB1066 Time Extension for the
- 23 City of Highland, San Bernardino County. And Cara Morgan
- 24 will present this item.
- 25 BRANCH MANAGER MORGAN: Good afternoon. The City

- 1 of Highland has requested to change its base year to 2000
- 2 using the data from its previously approved 2000
- 3 generation based study. The City requested a 52 percent
- 4 diversion rate for 2000. Board staff recommended
- 5 deductions and additions to the original study which can
- 6 be viewed in Attachment 4. With Board staff's recommended
- 7 numbers, the City's diversion rate would still be 52
- 8 percent for 2000, 47 percent for 2001, and 45 percent for
- 9 2002. For this particular item, staff is recommending the
- 10 Board adopt Option Number 2.
- 11 The City of Highland has also requested an SB1066
- 12 sometime extension through December 31st, 2005. While the
- 13 City had exceeded the 50 percent diversion requirement in
- 14 2000, based on its study, the City believes it will need
- 15 to implement the proposed plan of correction to again
- 16 achieve and then maintain the 50 percent diversion
- 17 requirement. The continuing growth in both the city and
- 18 the surrounding Inland Empire has challenged the City's
- 19 existing programs. And in response, the City has
- 20 determined it will need to expand some of those programs
- 21 to meet the demands of maintaining the 2000 diversion
- 22 rate.
- 23 The city has identified key areas in which
- 24 programs can be expanded to increase diversion. These
- 25 include improvements to the City's residential and

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- 1 commercial curbside collection, as well as strengthening
- 2 the City's C&D diversion program in accordance with the
- 3 C&D ordinance it adopted in 2001. In conclusion, staff is
- 4 recommending for the time extension item the Board adopt
- 5 Option Number 1.
- 6 Unfortunately, the representatives for the city I
- 7 believe -- oh, they are so kind. They did stay. So if
- 8 you have any questions, they are still here. That
- 9 concludes staff's presentation for both items.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you.
- Does the City of Highland want to make a
- 12 statement or anything? You're okay with this? Okay.
- 13 Good.
- 14 Then I guess we have two separate resolutions. I
- 15 move Resolution 2005-13.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: So you're moving that.
- 17 I'll second that. We'll substitute the previous roll
- 18 call.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: And then I move
- 20 Resolution 2005-14.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I second that. We'll
- 22 substitute the previous roll call.
- 23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Committee Item I is
- 24 Consideration of Application for SB1066 Time Extension by
- 25 the City of Half Moon Bay in San Mateo County. And Keir

- 1 Furey will present.
- 2 MR. FUREY: Good afternoon, Committee members.
- 3 The City of Half Moon Bay has requested a 1066
- 4 time extension through December 31, 2005. The City's
- 5 reasons they need a time extension are as follows: To
- 6 allow time to implement a program that will divert
- 7 biosolids produced at the waste water treatment facility
- 8 that the city hosts; to revise an existing C&D ordinance
- 9 to improve its effectiveness; and to expand other existing
- 10 diversion and outreach programs.
- 11 The Board staff has determined the information
- 12 submitted in the application is adequately documented
- 13 based on this information. Board staff is recommending
- 14 that the Board approve the City's time extension request.
- 15 That concludes my presentation, if you have any
- 16 questions.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: They've gone from 41 to
- 18 39, and so the sludge alone isn't going to get them there.
- 19 They're going to need to do quite a bit more stuff. And
- 20 can you just expand a little bit? Are they really
- 21 adopting and implementing a lot of new programs?
- MR. FUREY: Actually, they are. They're looking
- 23 at -- again, I'm looking to see their plan. They're going
- 24 to be working on their curbside program as far as some new
- 25 toter style containers. I think they're switching from

- 1 the old stackable bins to the toters. They're trying to
- 2 expand their commercial -- going back and revisiting a lot
- 3 of their larger commercial generators, sludge, C&D waste.
- 4 A lot of the cities start the ordinance and get the basics
- 5 in place, but there's still work to actually get them to
- 6 be effective and really enforce them. So they've got the
- 7 foundation. Now they've got it up and running and see
- 8 where they need to tweak it to really improve it strongly.
- 9 They're going to be working with -- those are the kind of
- 10 things they were looking at doing.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 12 Let the record show also that Board Member Marin
- 13 has joined us.
- 14 Any other questions on this item?
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No, I have none. Move
- 16 approval of Resolution 2005-15. I'll second.
- 17 Call the roll.
- 18 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Marin?
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Aye.
- 20 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Mulé?
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Aye.
- 22 SECRETARY KUMPULAINIEN: Paparian?
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Aye.
- I was going to go through the previous items.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Good.

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We went through Items G
- 2 through Item S.
- 3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Starting with F.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Oh, thank you. So
- 5 starting with Item F through Item S prior to your arrival.
- 6 And we had 2-0 votes on all of those and left the roll
- 7 open if you wanted to add to it.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I do, Mr. Chair. I
- 9 don't have any problems, as I mentioned to you before. If
- 10 I may for the record, it will be a 3-0.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: You'll be voting aye on
- 12 all those items?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Right.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Is that okay? I'm getting
- 15 a nod from Legal staff. So all those Items F through S,
- 16 plus T that we just did, should go on the consent
- 17 calendar.
- 18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Next item is Item U.
- 19 And this is Consideration of a Second SB1066 Time
- 20 Extension Application by the following jurisdictions:
- 21 Solano Unincorporated, Solano County, and Daly City, San
- 22 Mateo County. And Betty Fernandez will present.
- MS. FERNANDEZ: Committee Chair and Committee
- 24 members.
- 25 The City of Daly City and the County of Solano

- 1 have requested a second time extension through December
- 2 31st, 2005. The reasons why the City of Daly City is
- 3 requesting the second time extension are as follows: To
- 4 allow time to implement a program that will divert
- 5 biosolids produced at the wastewater treatment facility
- 6 that the city hosts, to allow time to strengthen their
- 7 existing C&D ordinance mandating contractors to certify
- 8 that materials are being recycled; and to expand existing
- 9 diversion and outreach programs.
- 10 With regard to the County of Solano, the reason
- 11 for their second time extension request are: Based on the
- 12 lack of formal garbage contract has resulted in disposal
- 13 and recycling participation on a voluntary basis; formal
- 14 garbage negotiations and contracts with local haulers have
- 15 been delayed; also the County requires more time to fully
- 16 implement the new services and allow for continued
- 17 outreach and education for eligible residents, including
- 18 non-English Spanish-speaking residents.
- 19 The Board has determined that the information
- 20 submitted in the applications is adequately documented.
- 21 And based on this information, Board staff recommends that
- 22 the Board approve the time extension request for both the
- 23 City and the County.
- 24 Representatives from the city and the county were
- 25 not able to attend. This concludes my presentation.

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Not a question,
- 3 Mr. Chairman. But I really do appreciate -- I know I see
- 4 it every now and then where cities especially that have
- 5 heavily minority populations where they really make that
- 6 extra effort to reach out to them. I really like the fact
- 7 they have the oil. You know, there is a lot of Latino
- 8 families that they recycle their -- they change their own
- 9 oil, and they do it at home. And unless somebody is there
- 10 to remind them in Spanish that the appropriate disposal
- 11 and things of that nature, they don't know how to do it.
- 12 So I know that every now and then some of the cities make
- 13 an extra effort to reach out to those communities, and I
- 14 really -- I was very pleased to see that very
- 15 specifically.
- 16 So with that, Mr. Chair, if you would accept a
- 17 motion of approval.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Are there any other
- 19 questions? Go ahead.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Resolution 2005-16.
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Second.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: It's been moved and
- 23 seconded. We'll substitute the previous roll call and put
- 24 this on consent.
- 25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Marie Kakutani will be

- 1 presenting Committee Item V, which is Consideration of the
- 2 Application for an SB1066 Time Extension by the City of
- 3 Laguna Beach, Orange County.
- 4 MS. KAKUTANI: Good afternoon, Committee members.
- 5 The City of Laguna Beach has requested a time
- 6 extension through December 31st, 2005. The reason the
- 7 City of Laguna Beach needs a time extension is to
- 8 implement programs as outlined in their first time
- 9 extension, such as school source reduction and recycling
- 10 programs, that will involve the coordination of the DPLA
- 11 staff, wood waste and C&D program, increase in material
- 12 diverted to the transformation facility, residential green
- 13 waste, and drop off program. The City of Laguna Beach
- 14 anticipates an 8.5 percent increase in its diversion rate.
- 15 Board staff has determined that the information submitted
- 16 in the application is adequately documented. Based on
- 17 this information, Board staff is recommending that the
- 18 Board approve its time extension request.
- 19 This concludes my presentation.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: No questions. Move
- 22 approval of --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: 2005-17.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Second.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And it's been moved and

- 1 seconded. We'll substitute the previous roll call and put
- 2 this on consent.
- 3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Committee Item W is
- 4 Consideration of the Application for an SB1066 Time
- 5 Extension and Consideration of 2001-2002 Biennial Review
- 6 Findings for the Household Hazardous Waste Element for the
- 7 City of San Jacinto, Riverside County. And Zane Poulson
- 8 will present this item.
- 9 MR. POULSON: Good afternoon, Committee members.
- 10 The City of San Jacinto has requested a time
- 11 extension through December 31st, 2005. The specific
- 12 reasons the City of Jacinto needs a time extension are as
- 13 follows: Implement programs as outlined in their first
- 14 time extension, such as residential curbside will be
- 15 expanded in order to automate the service to once-a-week
- 16 service; residential curbside green waste will be expanded
- 17 so residents will be able to use a new green waste
- 18 container provided to them by the city's new franchise
- 19 hauler; commercial recycling will be expanded by offering
- 20 an aggressive outreach campaign so more businesses can
- 21 participate in the recycling program; to implement a
- 22 construction and demolition ordinance.
- 23 Board staff have determined the information
- 24 submitted in the application is adequately documented.
- 25 Based on this information, Board staff is recommending

- 1 that the Board approve the time extension request. A
- 2 representative from the city is present to answer any
- 3 questions. This concludes my presentation.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: No. Move approval of
- 6 Resolution 2005-18.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Second.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Moved and seconded. We'll
- 9 substitute the previous roll call and put this one on
- 10 consent.
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Zane will also be
- 12 presenting Committee Item X, and that's Consideration of
- 13 the Application for SB1066 Time Extension by the City of
- 14 La Mesa, San Diego County.
- MR. POULSON: The City of La Mesa has requested a
- 16 1066 time extension through December 31st, 2005. The
- 17 specific reasons the City needs a time extension are as
- 18 follows: To expand the city's recycling program for
- 19 diversion of multi-family waste and commercial waste; to
- 20 implement a construction and demolition ordinance; and to
- 21 work to identify misallocated waste at the transfer
- 22 station located within the city; and conduct outreach and
- 23 education efforts to emphasize to self-haul customers the
- 24 importance of proper disposal reporting; and conduct
- 25 training of the transfer station's staff to ensure they

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- 1 are making all possible efforts to obtain and report the
- 2 correct origin of self-haul disposal materials.
- 3 Board staff have determined that the information
- 4 submitted in the application is adequately documented.
- 5 Based on this information, Board staff is recommending
- 6 that the Board approve the City's time extension request.
- 7 Representatives from the city are available to
- 8 answer your questions. This concludes the presentation.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Has the misreporting -- is
- 10 there some thought that has increased over the last few
- 11 years? Because the diversion rate has been going down.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I noticed that, too.
- MR. POULSON: There has been some concern over
- 14 that there might be some additional misreporting or
- 15 tracking issues they're trying to work on.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I don't know if the
- 17 representative might want to comment on that.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I was going to ask if
- 19 somebody could come and explain what steps you're taking
- 20 to correct the situation.
- 21 MR. SNIDER: I'm John Snider. I'm General
- 22 Manager of the EDCO Disposal, the franchised hauler for
- 23 the city of La Mesa. We also operate EDCO Station, which
- 24 is in the city.
- We feel that since opening the station in 1999

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- 1 that self-hauled waste that comes through has been
- 2 misreported. Folks think when they come in they think
- 3 maybe there's a discount because they're from out of the
- 4 jurisdiction. We also operate in a wasteshed area where
- 5 the county of San Diego shares the ZIP code. There's
- 6 unincorporated areas that share the same ZIP code as the
- 7 city of La Mesa. It's in very close proximity to the
- 8 transfer station where self-haul waste can be coming from,
- 9 too.
- 10 What we have done is put up signage both in
- 11 English and Spanish to let our customers know there is no
- 12 discount for where your waste comes from. It's state
- 13 reporting. It's very important. We've gone through some
- 14 pretty extensive training with our staff to make sure
- 15 they're asking the right questions, and we implemented
- 16 that in the last year. So we think we have a handle on
- 17 it, so it should improve.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you, John.
- I know that's not an issue unique to La Mesa.
- 20 We're having those problems around the state. Appreciate
- 21 the steps you're taking to correct the situation. Thank
- 22 you.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thanks. Any other
- 24 questions?
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: No. I was looking at

- 1 all of the other cities and why some of them are going
- 2 down, the percentage of your city, because you are
- 3 starting on a lower level. I mean, 2000, you only have 45
- 4 percent. So to 38 percent is a much higher increase -- or
- 5 rather decrease than other cities that started at 48 and
- 6 went down to 45. So I'm glad you're taking action to
- 7 correct this, and I want to see 50 by next year.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: With that, I'll move
- 9 Resolution 2005-19.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Second.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: There's been a motion and
- 12 a second. We'll substitute the previous roll call and put
- 13 this one on consent.
- 14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: Committee Item Y is
- 15 Consideration of the 2001-2002 Biennial Review Findings
- 16 for the Source Reduction Recycling Element and Household
- 17 Hazardous Waste Element for Plumas County and Portola.
- 18 And Natalie Lee will present this item.
- 19 MS. LEE: Good afternoon, again. Staff has
- 20 conducted the biennial review for the city of Portola and
- 21 found that while the 2002 diversion rate remains below the
- 22 50 percent diversion requirement, the jurisdiction is
- 23 adequately implementing source reduction, recycling,
- 24 public information, and education programs. Therefore,
- 25 staff recommends support for Option 1 in the agenda item.

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- 1 This jurisdiction is a small rural city which has
- 2 extensive fluctuations in diversion rates over time. The
- 3 SB 2202 working group recommended that rural jurisdictions
- 4 be allowed to demonstrate AB 939 compliance by program
- 5 implementation and effectiveness, instead of spending
- 6 resources on fixing numerical issues. Staff followed this
- 7 recommendation when reviewing the jurisdiction.
- 8 This concludes my presentation.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions?
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: And I move adoption of
- 11 Resolution 2005-20.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Second.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Moved and seconded. We'll
- 14 substitute the previous roll call and put this one on
- 15 consent.
- 16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCHIAVO: The final item is Item
- 17 Z, is Consideration of a Request to Extend the Due Date
- 18 for the Submittal of the Source Reduction Recycling
- 19 Element and Household Hazardous Waste Element and
- 20 Nondisposal Facility Element by the City of Rancho Cordova
- 21 in Sacramento County will be presented by Steve Sorelle.
- MR. SORELLE: Good afternoon, Chair and Committee
- 23 members.
- Newly incorporated cities are required to submit
- 25 within 18 months of incorporation a Source Reduction and

- 1 Recycling Element, Household Hazardous Waste Element,
- 2 Nondisposal Facility Element to California Integrated
- 3 Waste Management Board for approval.
- 4 The City of Rancho Cordova was incorporated on
- 5 July 1, 2003, and its SRRE, HHWE, and NDFE submittal due
- 6 date was January 1, 2005. The City has requested to
- 7 extend its due date until December 31st, 2005, which will
- 8 provide sufficient time for them to complete their base
- 9 year study covering calendar year 2004 and to finalize all
- 10 planning documents, some of which are dependent on data
- 11 from the base year study for completion. Staff has
- 12 determined the reasons for the extension are adequate and
- 13 the extension period is reasonable. Therefore, staff
- 14 recommends Option 1 to approve the extension request.
- This concludes my presentation. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Any questions? Board
- 17 Member Mulé is moving 2005-21.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: And I second that.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: We'll substitute the
- 20 previous roll call and put that on consent.
- 21 That brings us to the end of DPLA, but back to
- 22 conversion technologies. Where we left it was we heard
- 23 all the testimony. And do you have anything to add or
- 24 respond to?
- 25 SUPERVISOR BERTON: Fernando Berton of material

- 1 management. Not so much -- there would be a lot to
- 2 respond to.
- 3 One thing I do want to add, we were chitchatting
- 4 as far as possible comment deadlines. February 15th for
- 5 comment deadlines. And we're thinking of having a
- 6 workshop February 24th, specifically on the report, a
- 7 public workshop.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: There were a couple of
- 9 letters that I saw. And as a matter of fact, I agreed
- 10 with the tenor of -- I think it was former Member Roberti
- 11 that if I recall correctly he was suggesting that maybe
- 12 the very first caveat of the report tends to have a little
- 13 bit of a down side, gloomy kind of a presentation. And,
- 14 you know, this is actually pretty exciting. And if
- 15 California is going to be a leader again, I think that the
- 16 way we might want to present -- acknowledging that there
- 17 are some concerns. But at the end of the day, that has
- 18 presented us with an opportunity to shine again. And that
- 19 we can be the leaders, you know, taking into consideration
- 20 the concerns that people may have. In fact, this is
- 21 something, you know, that we look forward to taking on as
- 22 a challenge.
- 23 California has never shied away from challenges.
- 24 Just the opposite. I believe so strongly that we can --
- 25 we're bigger than the challenges before us, that we can

- 1 take them and run with them. And we are the leaders in
- 2 this effort. We should not shy away from that, that we
- 3 are willing and able to meet the challenges of the 21st
- 4 century. And this is the venue that then properly
- 5 California can shine again or can continue to shine,
- 6 rather.
- 7 So, Mr. Chair, if you would concur that maybe the
- 8 presentation of it, not minimizing the concerns, but it's
- 9 far more positive.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I think what the
- 11 Legislature was looking for was, more than anything else,
- 12 a ranking of these technologies based on a variety of
- 13 environmental, public health, and economic factors. And,
- 14 you know, maybe that needs to be drawn out more, because I
- 15 think there are a range of technologies. And I think
- 16 where we stumble in the conversion technology area is when
- 17 they all get lumped together, but another one seems really
- 18 good. And we get kind of perplexed about all that.
- 19 So I think that perhaps one thing we could do is
- 20 go back and kind of look at the pluses and minuses of each
- 21 one, because I think that's really what the Legislature
- 22 was looking for, and maybe draw out the sort of ranking
- 23 again that I think the Legislature was looking for so
- 24 that, you know, some technologies do stand out as being
- 25 perhaps a little more preferable than some of the other

- 1 ones.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: I have a concern with
- 3 that, with ranking technologies. As we mentioned earlier,
- 4 the technology of conversion technologies is changing
- 5 every day. And so what may be feasible today or what may
- 6 not be feasible today or what we don't even know of today
- 7 may be the technology of the future down the road.
- 8 And what I would recommend in our staff report is
- 9 rather than hear it says, "specific and discrete
- 10 definitions and descriptions of each conversion technology
- 11 evaluated," I think one of the conclusions that we can
- 12 come to is that this is an evolving group of technologies.
- 13 And in keeping with that to say to let the Legislature,
- 14 know that this is ongoing and our research would be
- 15 ongoing. But based on the information that we have today,
- 16 here's what we look at. Here's what we limited our scope
- 17 of our report to and perhaps present it in that way,
- 18 rather than, you know, try to do this ranking that today
- 19 may be one thing but tomorrow might be something else.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I certainly agree with
- 21 that. The point that we -- the bottom line question is
- 22 what do we want? You know, we, Californians, are people
- 23 that are always looking for a better, cheaper, faster way.
- 24 And we can meet those challenges through the innovation
- 25 and not just of what we know. I mean, innovation is

- 1 things we don't know. It's creating new things. And I am
- 2 really hopeful that through new technologies that we will
- 3 have answers to many of the problems that we have right
- 4 now with our resources and the utilization of those
- 5 resources. So I guess more than anything else, I'm
- 6 looking for the ways that technology can really help us
- 7 and this conversion technology, whatever they may be.
- 8 For all we know, Mr. Chair, in six months some
- 9 genius out there is going to come up with something
- 10 totally different. And if we were to utilize a particular
- 11 ranking of yet-to-be-discovered things, that would put
- 12 that particular innovation out in the -- out. It wouldn't
- 13 even be considered. So I don't want to limit ourselves,
- 14 and I don't want our people out there who are willing to
- 15 invest to be limited by that either, you know, in these
- 16 new technologies.
- 17 And I know for some -- you know, we really have
- 18 to think the people that are willing -- and I don't even
- 19 know if they're here anymore. The people that are really
- 20 taking a chance with investing in these new technologies,
- 21 some of them are going to pay off, and some of them
- 22 unfortunately are going to fall flat. But for those
- 23 innovators that are coming up with the answers, you know,
- 24 we do need to provide them the environment, if you will,
- 25 so they can succeed. I don't want to impose limits on

- 1 them. I want it to be limitless as the options are. And
- 2 there are technologies that we have yet to discover, and I
- 3 don't want to limit them.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: But at the same time,
- 5 taking into consideration all the environmental aspects of
- 6 it, to me, that goes without saying.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I think, Fernando, you
- 8 have drawn out a number of things that we know and that we
- 9 don't know about, either the impacts or possible impacts
- 10 of some of the technologies. And I think that's quite
- 11 appropriate to include also.
- 12 I had a couple of other things. We talked about
- 13 posting the comments on the web, which hopefully we can
- 14 get done, if we need to push Mr. Leary a little bit to try
- 15 to make sure that the computer folks know to get this done
- 16 in the next week or so in time for people to have the
- 17 opportunity to look at them before they have the February
- 18 15th deadline upon them. I think that would be helpful.
- 19 I had an interchange with Fernando, actually not
- 20 as part of this hearing, about the description of the
- 21 European hierarchy. And I think he's going to be looking
- 22 at how to correctly portray the European hierarchy. And
- 23 then this morning I talked about perhaps in the context of
- 24 any discussion of Europe, even if it's only a couple
- 25 sentences, I think it's important to realize that the

- 1 Europeans do things in a certain way with regards to
- 2 pre-processing and aggressive promotion of recycling and
- 3 manufacturer responsibility that makes the system more
- 4 whole in Europe.
- 5 On page 6 in the report and then I think
- 6 elsewhere, there's a suggestion that the conversion
- 7 technologies may have many advantages over landfilling,
- 8 composting, transformation, and recycling. I think we may
- 9 want to take a closer look at that. I'm not sure I'm
- 10 ready to say that the conversion technologies are
- 11 preferable to recycling or imply that. So the wording
- 12 there may need to be worked on a little bit.
- 13 And then the last thing I wanted to mention, we
- 14 had the discussion of peer review this morning. And I
- 15 went back and looked at the legislation, and it does say
- 16 that with regards to this report the Board shall require
- 17 that the report be subject to an external scientific peer
- 18 review process conducted pursuent to a certain section of
- 19 the Health and Safety Code, which very carefully lays out
- 20 the type of peer review process you use. We had some very
- 21 generous offers this morning by some of the advocates they
- 22 would provide people for the peer reviews. I'm not sure
- 23 that's consistent with the Health and Safety Code. So I
- 24 think we may need to look at how we might use the process.
- 25 And if I'm not mistaken, it's Tam Doduc upstairs who now

- 1 kind of coordinates the peer reviews for CalEPA. But I
- 2 want to make sure that we abide by what the legislation
- 3 says.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Mr. Chair, where was it
- 5 that you were reading that conversion technologies are
- 6 preferable to -- what was it -- recycling? Where was
- 7 that?
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Bottom of page 6.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Oh, okay. Because I
- 10 read landfilling. And everything else after that is
- 11 landfilling, landfilling. So if you see the bottom and
- 12 then the next item, it was -- I remember reading the
- 13 technologies have over landfilling. Clearly, clearly,
- 14 that's a true statement over landfilling. Now I see what
- 15 you're saying, composting, transformation, and recycling.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Right. I think I know
- 17 what the staff was trying to get at there. But I think
- 18 that could be -- I mean, just reading it literally, I take
- 19 it a little bit the wrong way and I think others might as
- 20 well. So you need to take a look at how that's portray --
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: The landfilling over the
- 22 items --
- 23 SUPERVISOR BERTON: This was language directly
- 24 from the RTI report that we had peer reviewed as well. So
- 25 this is language from the contract report to us based on

- 1 their life cycle analysis. And it's just pointing out
- 2 what some of those potential benefits are. But we'll look
- 3 at the language and see how it can be modified
- 4 accordingly.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Okay.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I know you've been doing
- 7 the delicate dance on this one in trying to put it
- 8 together in an accurate and acceptable way. So you're
- 9 doing good work.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: Thank you very, very
- 11 much.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: I know this is a
- 14 difficult subject. But, you know, I think you're bigger
- 15 than the challenge before you.
- Mr. Chairman, if I may on another note, and I
- 17 mentioned it to you before, I really don't mind reading
- 18 all of this for this particular Committee. It takes a lot
- 19 of time and energy and effort. But I have a very serious
- 20 concern insofar we are the Waste Board, and how many trees
- 21 did we have to kill to produce all of this wonderful
- 22 information on paper? I don't mind it. And I told
- 23 everybody to give me information that I really need to
- 24 make a determination. I go through it, you know, but I
- 25 can go through it as well on my computer.

- 1 And I actually need to make a statement,
- 2 Mr. Chairman, because I don't even know that all of this
- 3 hard work is absolutely necessary for us to make a
- 4 determination. And I know our staff is working very, very
- 5 hard. They spend a lot of time putting all of this
- 6 information together. I question the wisdom to put all of
- 7 this in paper when -- if it is accessable and it should be
- 8 accessable, some of this, online. I would much rather see
- 9 us moving toward more online. Even the budget of the
- 10 state of California -- remember the budget used to be this
- 11 huge -- is no longer being provided in paper. So I don't
- 12 want the Governor to be ahead of us, Mr. Chairman.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Yeah. I don't know if
- 14 this Committee is going to be the right one to discuss
- 15 this. Probably -- I see Mark's head spinning right now.
- 16 But I think that I agree that we ought to be hunting out
- 17 and destroying all paper copies of everything that comes
- 18 our way and doing it electronically. I think both in
- 19 terms of the material that we get, we ought to come up
- 20 with systems so we can do most or all of it
- 21 electronically. And at the same time, we have a lot of
- 22 submittals to us. We've had the debate should it be on 30
- 23 percent recycled content or 100 percent recycled content
- 24 paper. How about if it's not even paper at all?
- 25 So I think that it would be challenging, I think,

- 1 for the staff to move in this direction. But I think it's
- 2 going to be an important direction to move in. I think we
- 3 ought to be going paperless.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: And in addition to that,
- 5 I would like to see this Board moving toward dealing --
- 6 see, I'd much rather spend the entire time talking about
- 7 conversion technologies and talking about the composting
- 8 study and really delving into policy issues than approving
- 9 the super majority of these items for which staff has had
- 10 to spend an inordinate amount of time, when clearly they
- 11 could make the determination -- the staff could do it.
- 12 And only those items that really necessitate Board action
- 13 that would have to come before the Board.
- 14 And I know that we're probably going to have this
- 15 discussion in our Board retreat, but I want everybody,
- 16 especially the Board members, to start thinking about
- 17 better ways. There's got to be a better way of utilizing
- 18 our limited staff resources and not spend the inordinate
- 19 amount of time that it's taken to put together this
- 20 valuable information and important information. But at
- 21 the end of the day, the decisions are very simple and very
- 22 clear. And we have the statutes that tell us, you know,
- 23 how to work within those. We could probably start
- 24 thinking of delegating some authority to either our
- 25 Director or our Deputies or our -- who else? Our staff

- 1 directors.
- 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Branch chiefs.
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: -- in some ways. And
- 4 only those items that really necessitate Board
- 5 intervention that would come to us.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: And that, I think, clearly
- 7 is one probably for the full Board to grapple with.
- 8 Mark, do you want to comment on any of these?
- 9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Yes, I'd be happy to.
- 10 I think, Madam Chair, when you raise the
- 11 paperless issue, you were preaching to the choir in the
- 12 Committee Chair, who's been pushing for paperless for
- 13 quite some time. In fact, Board Member Paparian has led
- 14 by example in this building and throughout state
- 15 government, as well as pushing for the arrangement for
- 16 wireless technology and wireless access to the internet in
- 17 these meetings rooms, such as you could bring your laptop
- 18 as a replacement for your Board binder.
- 19 We've also, in the past couple of years, moved
- 20 away from paper submittals to our stakeholders as part of
- 21 providing reports to our mailing list and either provided
- 22 CD ROMs or simply referred to the Board's website for
- 23 access to these documents. All these documents, all the
- 24 agenda items, all the attachments are available online.
- 25 And, you know, I think we're ready to go paperless. In

- 1 fact, we're darn close to it as it is. And to the extent,
- 2 you know, maybe as a movement towards more laptop
- 3 computers for all of us to bring to these meetings and
- 4 access our Board agenda items through a laptop rather than
- 5 lugging these 40-pound binders around.
- In regards to the second item of streamlining the
- 7 agenda item again, Board Member Paparian and Board Member
- 8 Peace heard loud and clear in the employee suggestion
- 9 interactions over the last year or so about streamlining
- 10 the agenda and the results that that may lead to staff
- 11 being more productive in the field and implementing
- 12 programs rather than preparing agenda items, which as you
- 13 suggest, Madam Chair, are kind of pro forma approvals by
- 14 the Committees and the Board. So staff and the executive
- 15 staff as well as the staff of the organization are very
- 16 open to those kinds of dialogues and discussions with the
- 17 Board and the Board leadership in terms of defining what
- 18 it wants to take up into the future in an effort to
- 19 streamline its decision making process.
- 20 So we're open and happy to participate. I think
- 21 as you suggest, Madam Chair, maybe the starting ground for
- 22 some of this discussion may be in our retreat later this
- 23 month.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Okay. Any public comment?
- 25 Mr. Mohajer couldn't resist. Come on up.

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- 1 MR. MOHAJER: I just want to -- Mike Mohajer for
- 2 the record. I just wanted to verify that the deadline
- 3 that was suggested by Fernando having a comment period
- 4 through February 15th, that was adopted, as well as having
- 5 a workshop on February the 24th.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I think the right way to
- 7 consider it, yes, the comment deadline of February 15th
- 8 and probably the 24th. They always have to go back and
- 9 check various other calendars to make sure that works.
- 10 But that's I think what they're aiming at is the 24th.
- 11 But you do a conversion technology list serve, so
- 12 I'm sure you'll put it out on that as soon as you know.
- 13 I'd put it in pencil for now or electronically.
- 14 Come on up.
- MR. STEWART: On the basis of today's hearing,
- 16 will this be removed from the Board agenda for the January
- 17 18th as a discussion item?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: That's correct. I think
- 19 it would come to the full Board in its next iteration.
- 20 That's right.
- Okay. Come on up, Mr. Theroux.
- MR. THEROUX: Michael Theroux, Theroux
- 23 Environmental.
- 24 I have collected a sizable amount of information
- 25 on the nature of the Japanese, not just the technologies,

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- 1 but how these technologies are presented to their public.
- 2 And if that suits the Board, I can provide those to
- 3 Fernando. We've gone into the some of the translations on
- 4 those. It's very interesting the perspective in
- 5 particular of how they advertise these to the public as
- 6 are they recycling or whatever. And so I have a source of
- 7 pretty hefty stack of information from the Development
- 8 Bank of Japan that can perhaps add into the fuel to the
- 9 fire here.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: I'm sure Fernando would
- 11 appreciate that. He's limited only by the size of this
- 12 building.
- MR. THEROUX: We do need some assistance in
- 14 translation. My translator left the country.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: That would mean more
- 16 challenges.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER MARIN: He speaks Japanese.
- 18 MR. THEROUX: That is a resource that we have
- 19 available.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PAPARIAN: Thank you.
- 21 Okay. If there's nothing else, this meeting is
- 22 adjourned.
- 23 (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste
- 24 Management Board, Special Waste Committee
- adjourned at 2:38 p.m.)

149 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 1 I, TIFFANY C. KRAFT, a Certified Shorthand 3 Reporter of the State of California, and Registered 4 Professional Reporter, do hereby certify: 5 That I am a disinterested person herein; that the 6 foregoing hearing was reported in shorthand by me, 7 Tiffany C. Kraft, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the 8 State of California, and thereafter transcribed into 9 typewriting. 10 I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said hearing nor in any 11 way interested in the outcome of said hearing. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand 13 14 this 20th day January, 2005. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR 24 Certified Shorthand Reporter 25 License No. 12277

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